

## India expels two Pakistanis in row

NEW DELHI (AP) — India on Tuesday expelled a Pakistani diplomat and a Pakistani high commission (embassy) official for alleged spying, an official spokesman here said, in a move escalating a new tit-for-tat dispute between the South Asian rivals. Indian Foreign Secretary K. Srinivasan conveyed New Delhi's decision to expel Nasrullah Ahmad, a first secretary, and Mohammad Atul Bajwa, a mission official, to Pakistani High Commissioner Riaz Hussain Khokhar. Indian intelligence officials said Monday they had seized a bundle of secret documents from Mr. Bajwa after he had paid 3,000 rupees (\$100 dollars) to his Indian contact, who managed to escape. Earlier Tuesday, Pakistan said it had arrested an Indian embassy attache, V.S. Chohan, in an identical operation on the same day. Mr. Chohan, employed in the embassy's visa section since August 1990, was caught "red-handed" while receiving secret papers from a Pakistani agent, security officials alleged in Islamabad, adding that his suspected Pakistani accomplice had also been arrested.



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# King's offer to meet with Rabin is only intended to advance peace process

Anani says no conditions attached to meeting except that it be rich in content and context.

By Nermene Mirad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein's announcement earlier this week that he would meet with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was not an apologetic proposal, with strings attached to it. Rather, it was a public offer meant to push the peace process forward and ensure that a successful outcome would bring stability and benefits to the whole region, especially to Jordan.

The King said he wanted a meeting that is rich in content and context and gives peace "a big push," Information Minister Jawad Al Anani told the Jordan Times Tuesday, adding that the King "did not place conditions on the meeting."

What His Majesty did in effect, Dr. Anani said, "was to inform the Jordanian people that the meeting with Rabin will take place... what was left pending was the timing."

Having established and announced the principle of holding a meeting, the timing of the meeting has been left open to ensure that it does not just turn into a "euphoric press occasion or an exercise in symbols," Dr. Anani pointed out.

In fact officials interviewed by the Jordan Times Tuesday agreed that the King's only apparent condition to meeting with Mr. Rabin was that "there would be a reason for it."

"We will not hesitate (to meet Rabin) and I would consider that a duty because I would be doing a service to my country which is facing threats from all directions," The King, in his speeches since the proposal to enter into peace negotiations with Israel, Dr. Anani pointed out, "has stressed the advantages and benefits that the future would hold for us and for the region."

In his address to the Parliament-government group, His Majesty said that Jordan entered the peace process with Israel out of a conviction in its viability and as a duty, and that he would meet with the Israeli prime minister if that is what is required to serve the interests of the country.

The King also spoke about

the meeting "for free," Dr. Anani said that the King's reference to the economic and political pressures on the Kingdom was to explain to the people that Jordan would benefit from a peaceful situation in the region.

The King said that the Kingdom was "not in a position where we are enjoying the support of a superpower or a group of countries or alliances." Even ties with Gulf Arab states have not improved since they were strained after the Gulf war, he said.

He urged a pragmatic attitude towards the Middle East peace process and stressed that Jordan, which, he said, always fulfilled its duties to the Arab nation, seeking a just and lasting peace but not a "peace at any price."

The message that many observers had understood from the speech was that the King was complying with a condition placed on him by the U.S. administration and Congress in return for military aid.

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very general fashion with Jordan and Morocco. Saudi Arabia and the Vatican have also been briefed, the report said.

Mr. Peres' spokeswoman, Behira Bardugo, denied such a plan was being discussed. "We haven't had any meetings or consultations on this," she told the Associated Press.

Maariv said the holy sites would include the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, built over what is believed to be Christ's grave, and the Dome of the Rock and Al Aqsa Mosque — the third holiest in Islam.

All three are located in East Jerusalem, which the Palestinians demand as the capital of a future state.

Israel seized the eastern sector from Jordan in 1967 and later "annexed" it. But few nations, including the United States, recognise its complete "sovereignty."

Control over the city is the most sensitive, emotional issue in the peace negotiations. Talks over its future were postponed in the current round that brought

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Israel ready for dialogue on

## Jerusalem shrines with Jordan

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Tuesday that Israel is ready to discuss the future of Christian and Muslim holy sites in Jerusalem, and a newspaper said Israel is considering putting them under international control.

Mr. Peres said there would be no compromise on Israel's "sovereignty" over all Jerusalem.

"But concerning the options, the rights and needs of the various believers, we are open to proposals," Mr. Peres said, singling out Jordan as a partner in such a dialogue.

The daily Maariv said Israel is weighing a plan to hand the holy places to an international administration that would include Jordan, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, the Vatican and the Palestinians.

The holy sites would be considered non-Israeli territory, Maariv said in its front-page story.

The daily said an outline of the plan was discussed in a

Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho. But it is part of final status talks to be completed within five years.

In recent weeks, Israel has emphasised Jordan's role in administering the Muslim holy sites. All Islamic institutions are run by the Waqf, or Islamic trust, which is under Jordanian control.

Mr. Peres said Tuesday that King Hussein did not have to worry about his standing in East Jerusalem.

"The King until today has influence over the holy sites through his influence over the Waqf, and we have no interest in harming the traditional influence he has had," Mr. Peres told reporters. "We are not here to weaken Jordan's status."

Referring to the Palestinians, Mr. Peres said that Israel would take "all measures at our disposal, including legal ones," to prevent them from turning East Jerusalem into a what he called a "couple of days."

Israeli negotiators and the

## Peres visit confirmed

By Nermene Mirad

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan confirmed Tuesday that Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres will come to Jordan to meet his U.S. and Jordanian counterparts next week as part of a meeting of the Jordanian-U.S.-Israeli commission.

Information Minister Jawad Al Anani said that Mr. Peres will only be participating in the opening of these talks, which will be also attended by Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, in his capacity as foreign minister, and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

He said there will be no negotiations conducted between the three senior officials. He appeared to be denying a statement by an official Israeli spokesman Monday that "Mr. Peres will hold talks with Mr. Christopher and Mr. Majali."

The meeting was originally scheduled for July 22 at a site in the Dead Sea area. On Monday however, both Mr. Christopher and Mr. Peres indicated the meeting would take place on July 30, two days after Israeli and Jordanian officials open border and water negotiations in Wadi Ara.

But Dr. Anani said that as of Tuesday, the date was "still not final" and that it was "subject to discussion."

Officials yesterday were still making preparations for this meeting and a bilateral meeting that will begin on July 18 in the Qaa Tabia in Wadi Ara, which is across the border from Israel. Their main task will be to ensure that the two sets of negotiations do not mesh together and that a proper sequencing of the two is established.

Jordanian negotiators have explained that they want to ensure that there is separation between the bilateral talks, which they say will concentrate on Jordanian rights, and the trilaterals which will lay the ground for economic cooperation but will not finalise any agreements before the bilaterals have achieved concrete progress.

The change in dates for the trilaterals from July 22 to July 20 threatened to make the two sets of negotiations appear as if they are one and the same which may give the impression that Jordan was negotiating economic cooperation alongside the "right" negotiations.

Negotiators had said that they expected the first round of bilaterals would concentrate on the "modalities" of the negotiations for a "couple of days."

Israeli negotiators and the

(Continued on page 3)

Aden desperate for food, water

it was not reaching the most needy people.

The International Committee of the Red Cross said it was repairing damaged water pipelines but needed more support from northern authorities to operate in the chaos of Aden.

Fewer northern soldiers were visible on Monday in the dusty, garbage strewn streets and there were no signs of the widespread looting that had plagued the city since it was captured by northern forces on Thursday.

"We will establish a true democratic regime in south (Yemen), and then a similar one in the north," said Abdul Rahman Al Jifri from his home in exile in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

"We already are a government, and we will work from within and from without," he said in a telephone interview.

His comments reflected the depth of the feelings that led to the nine-week war between President Saleh and southern secessionist leader Ali Salem Al Beidh.

Meanwhile a southern deputy told AFP that Mr. Beidh's Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) could meet soon in Sanaa to elect a new leader.

Trucks are bringing bottled water from Sanaa to Aden, hundreds of kilometers to the south, but aid workers said

spouse Mr. Beidh until the collapse of the Soviet Union, said that even if Beidh had given up the struggle there were other southern leaders who had not.

Oman, where Mr. Beidh fled before the fall of Aden, said Monday that the southern leader had promised to keep out of politics.

Meanwhile from his exile retreat in Oman, the leader of South Yemen's failed effort at secession has reportedly promised to eschew politics, but his top aides vowed Tuesday to carry on with the struggle.

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## Arafat and wife return to Gaza to take up residence

GAZA CITY (Agencies) —

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, accompanied by his wife Suha, returned to the Gaza Strip Tuesday to take up permanent residence and run the Palestinian self-rule government.

Mr. Arafat crossed the border from Egypt at the dusty Rafah terminal and was greeted by only two of the 19-member autonomy government he heads, Justice Minister Freih Abu Medien and Housing Minister Zakaria Al Agha. Also on hand was the PLO police chief, Major General Nasser Youssef.

The reception was low key. Small knots of people gathered along the road to Gaza City, clapping as Mr. Arafat's five-car motorcade passed.

There were few flags or banners along the route and very sparse crowds on the streets of Gaza City when the motorcade whisked into the downtown police headquarters.

Mr. Arafat's spokesman Marwan Karanfani told reporters one of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader's first tasks would be to find a place to live for his wife and 50 Palestinian orphans who will come Friday.

The orphans are from the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in Beirut, where their parents were massacred by Israeli-backed militiamen. Five have been adopted by Mr. Arafat.

Mr. Karanfani said Mr. Arafat would not have a luxurious palace.

"Arafat is a very simple man, and he's looking for a simple house," said Mr. Karanfani.

The presidential palace will reflect the character of the Palestinian people and the hardship the Palestinian masses have faced," he said.

Mr. Arafat made his historic return to Gaza after 27 years in exile on July 1. He left for a week to attend a

summit with Israeli leaders and to Tunis for a formal departure ceremony.

More than 1,000 officials were expected to move to Gaza from Tunis, where the PLO was based for a decade after being driven out of Beirut by Israel's invasion of Lebanon. Among those expected Friday were senior aides Yasser Abed Rabbo and Samir Ghoshe.

Mr. Arafat was accompanied by his wife Suha, 30, and their sister Hala.

Mrs. Arafat told reporters that both she and her husband were extremely happy to be in Gaza. She said Mr. Arafat had looked out at the Mediterranean and told her that for the first time he felt like he was looking at his own coastline.

Kim Jong-II appears in command in Pyongyang

SEOUL (Agencies) — North Korea's late "great leader" Kim Il-Sung lay in state on Tuesday as his son Kim Jong-II appeared to take up the reins of power in the communist world's first dynastic succession.

South Korean Television showed pictures of a tearful Kim Jong-II receiving guests invited to the presidential palace in central Pyongyang to pay their last respects to his father, whose body repose in a crystal sarcophagus.

It showed Defence Minister Joo In-Ju, Prime Minister Kang Song-San and other senior figures at Kim Jong-II's side during the ceremony, a sign the North Korean political and military elite was firmly behind the younger Kim's succession.

Dr. Shaath said several hundred, which could be as many as 800, have not been released as agreed in May, apparently for refusing to sign an amended undertaking against Israel once freed.

"We've asked the Israelis to give us a detailed list of those who if they signed would be released and they have promised to submit to us," Dr. Shaath told reporters.

The next round of negotiations will formally begin on Monday, and the PLO hopes they will be completed by October in time for elections to an autonomous council in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Dr. Shaath said Tuesday that the release of 37 Palestinian women jailed in Israel would top discussions next week.

The women, who are held in a jail outside Tel Aviv, met Tuesday with Faisal Husseini, the first senior PLO official to visit a prison in Israel, as scores of Israeli and Palestinian women demonstrated outside for their release.

Women prisoners, "special cases" and the remainder of the 5,000 prisoners that Israel promised to release in the accord would all be discussed by a sub-committee, Dr. Shaath said. Israel has so far freed less than 4,000 prisoners.

PLO officials said the hot-test issue was that of several thousand Palestinian prisoners still in Israeli jails, including the founder of the Hamas movement, Sheikh Ahmad Yassin.

"Kim Jong-II was present as the first person, the number one," the diplomat said.

## Multilateral talks open in Tunisia

TABARQA (AP) — Arab, Israeli and other senior diplomats gathered here Tuesday for two days of talks on ways of encouraging regional cooperation throughout the Middle East. The sixth round meeting of the steering committee of the Middle East multilateral talks will assess the progress of two years of discussions on issues related to the main political dispute between Israel and the Arabs. The multilateral meetings were set up at Israeli insistence as part of the regional peace talks launched in 1991 in Madrid to add depth to the political negotiations. The five multilateral tracks deal with arms control, scarce water, refugees, economic cooperation and environmental delegation. Tunisian Deputy Foreign Minister Saed Ben Mustafa said that despite Israel's direct autonomy agreement with the Palestine Liberation Organisation the talks were still needed to "promote and facilitate" a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. "The strengthening of the regional cooperation will lay the foundation of a structure of peace in the region," Mr. Ben Mustafa told the meeting in this Mediterranean coastal resort.

## Experts urge technical and financial aid for self-rule

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Now that the technical aspects of the Israeli-Palestinian autonomy agreement have taken hold in Gaza and Jericho, the next stage in the Palestinian-Israeli track of the peace process is widening Palestinian self-rule to the rest of the occupied West Bank, a symposium held in Toronto has heard.

Simultaneous with strengthening the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) in the territories, technical and financial assistance should also be extended to help develop the land and upgrade the living standards of the people living there, speakers told the symposium, which concluded on Monday.

Addressing the concluding session, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representative Nasser Al Kidwa assured the audience that the PNA was committed to building a democratic Palestinian state through elections.

A summary of the six-day symposium made available to the Jordan Times by the United Nations said that speakers during the event emphasized that the PNA "was overwhelmed with the tasks that lay ahead and would need financial and technical assistance."

"They urged non-governmental organisations (NGOs), particularly Palestinian non-governmental organizations, to work out a framework in which they would coordinate their efforts and cooperate with the new authority," said the summary.

Attention was also invited to the needs of the Palestinian refugees living outside the occupied territories, it said. Speakers cautioned that the needs of refugees should not be overlooked, it said.

One of the speakers, Nasser Aruri, a professor of political science at the University of Massachusetts, criticised some of the "basic provisional law" that has been adopted by the PNA as its charter for the transitional period saying they were not

consonant with the democratic process.

In a clear reference to the widely held belief that PLO leaders who have lived decades in exile do not clearly understand the political features of the occupied lands, Dr. Aruri said that "while others could make important contributions, the basic law should be written by people whose lives it would affect."

Palestinians are now faced with building the national authority in accordance with the modality of the Oslo agreement signed in September and the limiting procedures of the Cairo agreement signed in May, Dr. Aruri said.

While the Palestinian people have considerable experience in state-building and institution-building, efforts to build the national authority should be "consonant with the requirements of civil society" — accountability, responsibility, rule of law, popular sovereignty, and consent on the ground.

The last draft of the provisional basic law — a charter for Palestinian self-rule during the transitional period — had made substantial progress in limiting executive authority, Dr. Aruri said.

"Despite its positive features, the human rights section had troubling limitations, such as language which seriously weakened some protections," he said. "In all cases, state power was made superior to the right, instead of the right being made superior to ordinary law. The declaration of rights extended only limited protections to political rights. Most disturbing was the failure to provide for the voting franchise. The protections of speech and other political activities were also equivocal."

The Toronto symposium was organised by the committee on the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and focused on the role of North American NGOs in Palestinian rebuilding.

Among those who spoke on the closing day were Marc Perron, representative of Canada, Sarah Kaminer, a national symbol, but the

planning consultant for neighbourhood organisations in West and East Jerusalem, Janice Abu Shakra of the Palestinian Human Rights Information in Jerusalem, the Rev. Ibrahim Ayad, president of the Palestine Committee for NGOs, Larry Ekin, chairman of the North American Coordinating Committee for NGOs on the Question of Palestine and Keba Birane Cisse of Senegal, chairman of the Palestinian Rights Committee.

Mr. Perron, whose country chairs the Middle East multilateral working group of refugees, called for a review to find out "whether priorities and programmes were adapting to the changes on the ground."

He said that for the thousands of Palestinians, "who felt unwanted, ashamed and detested, the emerging arrangement represented a source of hope."

"The refugees outside the territories, however, needed to see that the peace process would also benefit them and allow them to live in dignity," the symposium summary quoted Mr. Perron as saying. "Unless that was accomplished, there would be no peace."

The Canadian representative called on the Palestinian NGOs to shift their focus "from politics to economics" and pointed out that the PNA was now the focal figure on channelling aid to the territories rather than NGOs which used to adopt their own programmes and priorities while dispensing aid.

Ms. Kaminer said 80 per cent of the land of East Jerusalem could not be used by Arabs. In the 14 per cent that remained, people lived in appalling conditions and were under the constant threat of having their homes slated for demolition.

Many Palestinians, unable to build homes on their own land, left East Jerusalem. That, of course, helped the Israeli plan to make East Jerusalem the "eternal capital of the Jewish people." That slogan had the power of

a national symbol, but the

Jewish people did not understand the effects it had on the lives of the Arabs living in Jerusalem.

Ms. Abu Shakra said the plan to Judaize Jerusalem meant the equivalent of homelessness or living in sub-standard conditions for 21,000 Palestinians. Non-governmental organisations could make a difference by bringing those Palestinians onto their agenda. A basic principle of joint non-governmental organisation action was that Palestinian non-governmental organisations had to initiate the action and tell the international non-governmental organisations what their priorities were.

She said the anticipation of becoming homeless inspired "shame and terror." In the last year, over 200 homes had been demolished without any notice being taken by the media or the international community. The Human Rights Committee had organised a mass registration to draw attention to those forced into homelessness as well as those families who had demolition orders against their homes. She hoped that publication of the Israeli policy would generate local and international responses.

The Symposium participants elected, by secret ballot, a 12-member coordinating committee for 1994-1995. Elected from the United States were the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee; the Episcopal Church, the USA; Methodist Federation for Social Action; the Palestine Aid Society; the Palestine Human Rights Information Centre-International; the Presbyterian Church; the Union of Palestinian American Women; and the Union of Palestinian Women's Association in North America.

Elected from Canada were the Canadian Auto Workers' Social Justice Fund; the Canadian Centre d'études Arabes pour le développement; and the Near East Cultural and Education Foundation of Canada.

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From staunch supporters of the PLO chief to his critics and opponents, Palestinians here say they love peace, but would prefer it if it came jobs and a better future.

"I love the president (Arafat)," said Nasr Hassan, a carpenter who is now unemployed.

"But what good will it do me if I love him and he can't feed me. I want to love him, and eat and feed my family."

Mr. Arafat acknowledged he faced an uphill task before he left Tunis, saying a very busy schedule awaited him in Gaza.

He said the situation in Gaza is "close to famine, the infrastructure totally destroyed and unemployment hitting 58 per cent of the population."

Mr. Hassan is an example of many in Gaza. He has been out of a job for more

## Palestinians want deeds not words from Arafat

GAZA CITY (AFP) — Palestinians are hoping Yasser Arafat is returning to the Gaza Strip for good with concrete plans to put into action rather than empty promises.

Palestinian sources said he was to leave early Tuesday for Al Arish, and then enter Gaza via the Rafah border crossing.

Mr. Arafat is to take up his seat as head of the Palestinian National Authority to run affairs in the new self-rule areas of Gaza and Jericho after bidding farewell to Tunis where he lived for 12 years.

While Mr. Hassan is a supporter of Mr. Arafat's mainstream Fatah faction and lives in a relatively comfortable neighbourhood of Gaza City, others in the refugee camp of Al Shati had mixed feelings about Mr. Arafat's return.

"We were joyful the first time he came," said Atta Zaki, 48, a store keeper.

"But now, as he is back to stay his return is becoming a regular, normal thing."

"We have problems in this camp, we need to pull down everything and start from scratch," Mr. Zaki said, pointing to squall rows of cramped houses and garbage-strewn streets around him.

"Can he (Arafat) do all this alone? We are not blaming him, but why did he sign an agreement without first getting the money," said Mr. Zaki, who is a member of the opposition Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

Mr. Arafat has accused Western donors of not producing the promised funds. So far only \$60 million out of some \$720 million pledged for 1994 have been put up.

"The last time he came, did anything change?" asked another DFPL follower who refused to be identified.

"I am not against the person, but against his policies."

## PECNDAR sits by as PLO takes over development

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — The Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction (PECNDAR), set up last year to assure donors, has wound down activity recently as the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has moved into self-rule areas and taken over development. Palestinian officials say.

The officials and donor sources say the resulting confusion about who is responsible for what in the complex Palestinian development process is likely to prompt donors to delay transfer of funds, angering the PLO.

PLO leader Yasser Arafat has started talking darkly about a conspiracy to stifle Palestinian self-rule by depriving it of the money it needs to get the economy moving and win vital Palestinian support for its peace deal with Israel.

"What is not clear is whether the new ministries are going to grab all of PECNDAR's functions and we will disappear," said a senior official.

"We appeal on behalf of the visiting delegation to government and judicial authorities in Lebanon to make a more determined endeavour to resolve this case," said Lebanese Sheikh Mohammad Mehdi Shamsuddin.

He heads the Higher Shitate Council, which runs the day-to-day religious affairs of the 1.2 million Shiite Muslims who make up Lebanon's largest single sect.

than a year, and since then has been working at the Gaza telephone exchange for a quarter the regular salary.

He and 80 others like him in the same department were paid by Israel until last month. As of July, the Palestinian authority will take over payments, he said.

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## Arafat's transition during 12 years

TUNIS (AFP) — Yasser Arafat, preparing to adopt the mantle of head of the new Palestinian Authority, turned from guerrilla leader to peacemaker during his 12 years of exile in Tunisia.

"At Tunis, we learned to stop at red lights, to wait in queues, to pay fines to women police officers," said one Palestinian official before heading with Mr. Arafat on Monday for the autonomous Gaza Strip and Jericho.

"Even Abu Ammar (Arafat) is not married just to the revolution any more," he smiled. Mr. Arafat married his ex-colleague Suha Tawil during his time in Tunisia.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) set up headquarters in Tunis in 1982 after Israeli forces drove his guerrillas from Lebanon.

It was in Tunisia, in December 1988, that the first official contacts were made between the PLO and the United States, after the Palestinian leadership implicitly recognised the state of Israel and officially renounced "terrorism."

These early talks soon fell through and were officially suspended in June 1990, but the seeds of negotiations had been planted and the idea of a Middle East peace conference began to grow.

Tunisia profited too — even though it had had little choice in complying with a U.S. request to welcome Mr. Arafat's party.

It acted as a go-between between Americans and Palestinians, and gave quiet but unreserved backing first to the secret negotiations in Oslo, then the declaration of principles on Palestinian self-government signed in Washington in September 1993.

In October 1993, Tunis was one of the first Arab capitals to host multilateral negotiations involving Israeli officials.

If Tunisia has been the PLO's only peaceful Arab home in exile, and if Palestinians of all persuasions never tired of praising both the country and its president, it is because the ground rules of their stay were fixed firmly in advance.

As well as the new ministry, the PLO will maintain an international relations department and the Palestine National Fund outside the self-rule areas. PLO sources say there are various other funds elsewhere about which little is known.

"Work at PECNDAR's headquarters just outside Jerusalem has halted in recent weeks because of the confusion. Officials admit they are largely marking time there.

In the corridors, technocrats now talk of the possibility the body, supposed with the World Bank to oversee a multi-billion dollar development plan, will be reduced to a glorified think-tank for development policy.

But this seems likely to upset donors, who first urged the PLO to set up PECNDAR last year to ensure aid funds would be properly channelled and accounted for.

The judge replied that the guarantee applied to a different date, when Mr. Jabara had not shown up to testify.

Mr. Jabara, 53, was led away in handcuffs.

In 1987, a court in Munich sentenced Mr. Jabara to six-and-a-half years in jail for arms trafficking. He was later deported. Officials said a warrant for his arrest has been in force ever since.

The defence lawyer at Monday's hearing angrily condemned his arrest. He said Mr. Jabara, who now lives in Switzerland, had been given a written guarantee by the head of the court that he would not be arrested if he came back to Germany to testify.

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Mr. Jabara confirmed he had worked as an agent for Baghdad between 1978 and 1982. He said that during this time he had met both Germany's then chief of police,

Tunisia's then president, Habib Bourguiba, made Palestinian fighters arriving from Beirut with Kalashnikov rifles lay down their arms.

He ordered Mr. Arafat not to use his country as a base for training guerrillas or launching attacks.

In exchange, Tunisia pledged to respect the PLO's freedom of decision and to stay out of its internal affairs.

As a result Palestinian-Tunisian relations under Mr. Bourguiba were distant but polite.

Rules were rarely broken and the PLO was threatened with expulsion only once in October 1985 — when the Tunisians learned that Abu Ayyash, a PLO member in Tunis, was behind the hijacking of the Italian passenger ferry Achille-Lauro.

The incident speeded up the departure of PLO fighters to the Middle East, Algeria and Libya.

Mr. Arafat snubbed Tunisia for a while before returning to his headquarters, then at Hammam-Shott, a modest suburb in southern Tunisia.

Israel's bombardment of Hammam-Shott also in October 1985, which left almost 200 Palestinians and Tunisians dead and wounded, strained relations between the Tunisian authorities and the PLO.

But the incident forged deep-seated feelings of solidarity between the Tunisians and Palestinians.

President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali, who Mr. Arafat calls Zen Al Arab or cream of Arabs, ushered in a long-lasting honeymoon period.

Even the deaths of two legendary PLO leaders — Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad) at the hands of an Israeli commando in April 1988 and Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad). In January 1991 — as well as the PLO's pro-Iraqi stance during the Gulf war, failed to damage relations.

The accession to power of President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali, who Mr. Arafat calls Zen Al Arab or cream of Arabs, ushered in a long-lasting honeymoon period.

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As well as the new ministry, the PLO will maintain an international relations department and the Palestine National Fund outside the self-rule areas. PLO sources say there are various other funds elsewhere about which little is known.

"Work at PECNDAR's headquarters just outside Jerusalem has halted in recent weeks because of the confusion. Officials admit they are largely marking time there.

In the corridors, technocrats now talk of the possibility the body, supposed with the World Bank to oversee a multi-billion dollar development plan, will be reduced to a glorified think-tank for development policy.

But this seems likely to upset donors, who first urged the PLO to set up PECNDAR last year to ensure aid funds would be properly channelled and accounted for.

The judge replied that the guarantee applied to a different date, when Mr. Jabara had not shown up to testify.

Mr. Jabara confirmed he had worked as an agent for Baghdad between 1978 and 1982. He said that during this time he had met both Germany's then chief of police,</p

## Ministry urges cut in non-Jordanian workers

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour Minister Khaled Ghzawi Tuesday urged the General Union of Green Grocers and Agricultural Wholesalers to reduce the number of non-Jordanian workers employed by the union at the central produce market in Amman and to open employment to Jordanians.

Addressing a meeting attended by union representatives, Mr. Ghzawi said the organisation should assist the Kingdom with its unemployment problem by employing Jordanian workers at the market.

There are 567 guest workers and 550 Jordanians currently employed at the central market, according to ministry statistics.

The minister and union representatives reached an agreement requiring guest workers to obtain a special permit to work at the market and agreed that no guest worker should be employed by any of the merchants in clerical, accountancy and collecting jobs.

The two sides also agreed that non-Jordanian workers employed in loading and unloading vegetables and fruits be issued permits for this job, provided the merchants gradually reduce their non-Jordanian staffs and fill the vacancies with Jordanians.

## Spanish T.V. team arrives to shoot documentary film

By Rana Husseini  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A five-person Spanish television team arrived here Monday on a two-week visit to the Kingdom to produce a documentary programme about Jordanian historic sites, sources at the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities said Tuesday.

The visiting team, from the Spanish television channel Television Espanola (TVE), is being hosted by the ministry and will tour Aqaba, Petra, Jerash and the Dead Sea, the source told the Jordan Times.

The team intends to introduce the touristic sites of Jordan to the Spanish television audience, which according to the source, is "considered one of the most important tourist markets for Jordan."

### HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

#### King condoles Hamarneh, Karadsheh and Zanariri families

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday delegated Royal Court Secretary General Munir Dura to attend the funeral of Victoria Zanariri, mother of Michel Hamameh, director of the Office of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, and to convey the King's condolences to the Hamarneh, Karadsheh and Zanariri families.

#### Premier offers condolences to N. Korea

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Tuesday called at the North Korean embassy here where he offered his condolences and those of the Jordanian government over the passing of North Korean President Kim Il Sung. Dr. Majali, who signed the condolences register, wished the People's Republic of Korea continued progress and prosperity.

#### Prince Abdullah wishes team good luck

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah, President of Jordan Football Association, Monday met with members of the Jordanian National Youth Team, who will be representing Jordan in the Asian Youth Soccer Championships. Prince Abdullah conveyed to the team members the best wishes of His Majesty King Hussein and listened to their views on the training camp, held recently for them in Aqaba. The meeting was attended by Youth Minister Fawwaz Abu Ghannam. The national youth team Monday left for Qatar, where it will play its first match with Oman Friday.

#### Scouts to head for camp in Egypt

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the 21st Arab Scouting Camp, which will be held in Port Said, Egypt on Thursday. Participating in the two-week camp will be 16 Arab countries. The Jordanian delegation is headed by Ministry of Education Scouts Division head Seif Dawaghish and includes 20 scouts and four scout leaders. Ministry of Education Secretary General Munther Al Masti met with the delegation and stressed the importance of active participation in this camp as ambassadors of Jordan.

### WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

#### EXHIBITIONS

- \* Amman 5th Furniture Fair at the World Exhibition Centre, University Road (Tel. 847113).
- \* Ceramic exhibition by plastic artists Dr. Mahmoud Sadeq and Da'd Milleh at Bakr Barjous Engineering Establishment, University Road (Tel. 688479).
- \* Exhibition of paintings by Omar Hamoud Shahin at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing "permanent" exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists (Tel. 643251/2).
- \* Plastic art exhibition by Hussein Da'ssif at the Phoenix Gallery for Culture and Art (Tel. 695291).
- \* Exhibition entitled "Arab Artists in France" at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts, Jabal Luweibdeh, off Al Muntazah Circle (Tel. 630128).
- \* Sculpture and ceramic exhibition by Iraqi artist Laith Al Turk at the Oriali Art Gallery in Umm Utheima (Tel. 826932).
- \* Exhibition by plastic artist Kheiri Harzallah at the Jordanian Plastic Association in Shmeisani (Tel. 699944).
- \* Exhibition by artist Bishara Al Najjar at the Orient Gallery for Fine Arts, Gardens Str. (Tel. 698513).
- \* Painting exhibition by Iraqi painters "The Pioneers Group" at Al Ain Art Gallery — Wadi Saqra (Tel. 644451).

## Crown Prince calls for employing Zakat funds towards social solidarity in Islamic societies

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Tuesday called on Muslim scholars and researchers in Islam to promote and expand the concept of Zakat (collecting alms for the poor) and employ the funds to achieve social solidarity in Islamic communities.

Zakat funds should be invested in production schemes employing workers and benefiting local Muslim communities, especially the needy, said Prince Hassan in an address to the opening of a three-day seminar organised at Al Hashemieh Palace.

"I have earlier called for the establishment of an international Zakat organisation and I have sent out messages to this effect to leading scholars in our Islamic World," said the Crown Prince in his address delivered on his behalf by Nasseruddin Al Assad, president of the Royal Academy for Islamic Civilisation Research (Al al Bayt Foundation) which organised the meeting.

Should this organisation see the light of day it would serve as a model of inter-Islamic cooperation in enhancing social solidarity aimed at ensuring security for the Islamic society, said the Crown Prince.

Recent statistics have shown that nearly one third of the population in the Third World, or nearly 1,300 million people, are living in absolute poverty, and more than 70 per cent of the world

refugee population are Muslims, noted Prince Hassan in his address to nearly 50 scholars from Arab and Islamic countries.

Zakat is one of the five tenets of Islam and has been imposed by Islam to help solve economic, financial and poverty problems and create stability within the Muslim society by rallying the faithful to help the needy and the disabled, Prince Hassan reminded the audience.

"Since we all seek to establish social justice, we ought to employ Zakat funds in investment projects within the framework of the common good, and Muslim scholars can create a formula to achieve this goal," said Prince Hassan.

"We have been witnessing a very disturbing phenomena recently: Economic growth devoid of job opportunities, prompting policy makers to give due attention to sustainable development plans that cater to the creation of jobs as well as ensuring economic growth," said the Crown Prince.

He added that Al al Bayt Foundation, which comprises scholars representing various schools of thought in Islam, serves as the best vehicle for ensuring the implementation of this symposium.

Organised under the title "Zakat and Social Solidarity in Islam," the symposium is attended by delegates who will review working papers



President of Al al Bayt Foundation Nasseruddin Al Assad (third from right) Tuesday delivers an address on behalf of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan

on financing social solidarity in Islam, the legitimacy of investing Zakat funds and prospects for the establishment of an international Zakat organisation.

Delegates attending the meeting represent the following Islamic schools of thought:

Sunnis: encompassing Al Shafieh, Al Hanafieh, Al Malikiyah and Al Hanbalieh; Shias (mainly in Iraq and Iran in addition to other parts

of the Arab World and Pakis-

tan); Zeidieh (mostly in Yemen); and Abadieh (in Oman).

This is the third international seminar organised by Al al Bayt Foundation to rally Muslim scholars' efforts towards serving Islamic societies.

The first meeting, entitled "Rights in Islam," was organised in Amman in July 1992; the second meeting, dealing with the same topics, was organised here in May last year.

## Israel seizes awqaf lands near Jerusalem — ministry

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Tuesday reported that Israeli authorities recently seized a 36-dunum plot of awqaf-owned land as well as Bab Al Rahmeh Islamic Cemetery near Jerusalem.

Rafik Al Khatib, director of the department in charge of Al Aqsa Mosque, said Israel took these latest measures under the pretext that it is implementing a re-organisational plan within the boundaries of the holy city.

According to Mr. Khatib, Israel has been claiming that it confiscated the land to increase the green areas around the city and would not issue the awqaf office any permits to construct these plots.

As soon as they seized the

36 dunums, the Israeli authorities started transforming the area into a tourist site, said Mr. Khatib.

In addition, Israel seized parts of waqf land in Tour, Jabal Zeitun and Musrara districts in the holy city and opened roads in a manner aimed at changing the Islamic and Arab character of the city, he said.

Charging that such actions run contrary to the peace plan, Mr. Khatib appealed to the world community and the Arab and Islamic worlds to take measures aimed at halting Israel's illegal actions and ending its desecration of waqf sites in the city.

Meanwhile, the Department of Palestinian Affairs in Amman said in a report

Tuesday that Israel is continuing to seize Arab-owned homes in East Jerusalem.

The Israeli Jerusalem municipality has also seized Arab-owned lands around the city to set up Jewish settlements, it said.

In Walajeh village near Jerusalem, Israeli authorities seized 18 dunums of land and uprooted olive trees in the Aboud area near Jerusalem.

The report said that the Israeli authorities last month detained 2,000 Palestinians, closed Dandis Printing Press and a food processing plant in Ramallah.

In the past month also, said the report, the Israeli forces shot and killed five Palestinians.

## Road accident kills woman, injures 11 family members

By Rana Husseini  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A road accident Monday evening took the life of one woman and injured 11 members of her family (all Saudi Arabian nationals) on their way home to Saudi Arabia, Civil Defence Department (CDD) reports said.

A CDD official told the Jordan Times that the woman's husband, Salem Omran (42), was at the wheel of a four-wheel-drive vehicle and speeding. Mr. Omran lost control of his vehicle, and it rolled over on a road in Al Disseh town, 75 kilometres east of Aqaba.

They blessed King Hussein's efforts to lay down the foundations of a just, durable and comprehensive peace in the region and the King's endeavours to safeguard national unity and independence and enhance security and stability in the region.

They stressed that Jordan, under the Hashemite leadership, will continue to be a strong fort in the face of all greeds targeting it.

Deputies from the National Action Front (NAF), a group involving independent deputies, sent a cable to King Hussein voicing full support and backing for his efforts and endeavours to maintain security and stability.

The General Conference of the Jordanian Democratic Popular Unity Party (Unionists) voiced appreciation for the King's speech describing it as comprehensive. In a cable to the King, the party's general conference said the King's focus on the need to safeguard national unity "is a true confirmation of the original positions contained in the thought of the Hashemites ever since the Prophet Mohammad launched the message."

Jordan has a bilateral debt with the U.S. of \$900 million but expects that if the U.S. Congress does write off this debt, many European creditors will follow suit, encouraging, by deduction, international lending organisations to improve the economic restructuring programme conditions on the Kingdom.

The conference hailed King Hussein's courage and his sacrifices for the advancement of Jordan and its prosperity.

With an unknown substance and left the family's home.

Shortly after, the husband said, his wife started acting strangely. He said he telephoned the midwife, who advised him to take his wife to the hospital.

The husband rushed his wife, identified as S.A.H., to Princess Basma Hospital. But the woman was declared dead on arrival. Her body was transferred to Al Bashir Hospital in Amman for autopsy.

Police have arrested the midwife who told them only that she had assisted in a natural delivery, police said.

According to the report, the husband of the deceased told police that the midwife, identified only as H.M., delivered the baby and injected the mother with an unknown substance and left the family's home.

As of Tuesday evening, medical examinations were unable to determine if the mother died as a result of the injection, which was still not identified, or of internal bleeding. Police said they are investigating the case.

## U.S. student delegation visits NHF

### Mufti highlights foundation's philosophy

AMMAN (J.T.) — A 12-member delegation of students from different high schools in the United States Tuesday visited Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) where they were received by Imam Mufti, advisor to Her Majesty Queen Noor for planning, development and NHF international relations, and senior NHF staff, said an NHF statement.

The visiting delegation first toured NHF's Jordan Design and Trade Centre (JDTC) to view its special selections of woolen rugs, embroidered home furnishings, ceramics, glassware, basketry, fashion-able clothing, wrought iron furniture, personal accesso-

ries and Islamic calligraphy items — all designed and produced by more than 3,000 Jordanian handicrafts men and women.

David O'Connor, the marketing advisor for the JDTC, told the delegation that JDTC seeks to raise the standards of Jordanian handicrafts production, improve marketing opportunities for crafts, create new jobs and increase women's involvement in production and decision making.

Mrs. Mufti gave the delegation a slide presentation on the NHF's projects and programmes implemented throughout Jordan stressing

## Clinton: Haiti expulsion move indicates' military option

— President Clinton said Tuesday an "illegal" military intervention by human rights monitors validates his decision to consider possible military action to restore democracy.

"It validates the fact that we have taken the right option which is an option we should have had," Mr. Clinton said when asked if the United States justified military action against army-backed rebels in the country deemed illegal by the United States.

Clinton called the expulsion of a joint mission of U.N. and U.S. monitors and the arrival of American troops as the "desperate" last news conference of the last day of his European trip to Europe.

"We got to bring an option to the table," Mr. Clinton said, adding the move will help "keep the spine" of the international community in the wake of the actions on Haiti.

It was only an illegal,

but highly aggressive regi-

on, said the president,

urging his advisers to step down.

President Jean-

Bertrand Aristide to power.

Haiti's army-backed government ordered the U.N.-led international human rights mission to leave the country Monday, a move denounced by the United States and branded an outrageous provocation by a top U.N. official.

The move was immediately denounced by the U.N.'s top official on Haiti, former Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, who told reporters in New York, "I consider this an outrageous decision. This is a provocation."

Mr. Caputo said the reasons were quite obvious: "They kill people. They torture people. They rape people. And they don't want any witnesses in their country."

Human rights groups have accused the military regime of increasingly using rape as a tool of political persecution.

Asked whether it was time for the United States to intervene militarily, Mr. Caputo said he had no comment.

In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Christine Shelly called the order a "serious escalation in the conflict between the regime and the international community."

She did not say if the order would lead to U.S. invasion of Haiti to restore exiled

freezing assets of the military and its friends.

The Haitian regime said it was ordering the mission to leave because its presence was illegal and a threat to national security, a mission official said.

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President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, ousted by the military in a 1991 coup.

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said the decision by Haiti's military leaders to order the human rights mission to leave reflects an increasing pattern of repression.

"It's really part of the pattern of increasing repression by the Haitian regime," Mr. Christopher told reporters as he arrived in Berlin ahead of President Clinton.

The Clinton administration has urged the United Nations to mount a peacekeeping operation of perhaps 10,000 to help keep order should the military leave or be removed.

A U.N.-OAS mission official said the mission was told to leave "in order to avoid an incident or provocation." He said the Haitian police and army had been given a copy of the letter to ensure it would be enforced.

The U.N. General Assembly renewed the human rights' workers' mandate Friday with warnings to the Caribbean nation's military rulers that it was time for them to give up the power they had seized in the bloody September 1991 coup.



A Haitian checks his personal documents while waiting in line along with dozens of others outside a temporary U.S. office for refugees in downtown Port-au-Prince. Haitians who apply at U.S. offices inside Haiti, can be allowed to come to the U.S. if they are granted refugee status based on a well-founded fear of prosecution (AP photo).

## Clinton plays sax at U.S. airbase

RAMSTEIN, Germany (R) — President Bill Clinton

played the saxophone for American soldiers at a U.S. air base here Monday. His brief performance with a jazz band drew loud applause from many of the 7,000 armed forces and civilian staff who had listened to a speech from Clinton at the Ramstein Air Base. With 55,000 Americans, Ramstein has the largest U.S. community outside the United States. Mr. Clinton resisted an invitation earlier to play a sax in front of German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's house in Oettingen. Before Mr. Clinton entered Mr. Kohl's house for dinner, a woman neighbour briefly played a saxophone decorated with a small American flag and handed it to him for an impromptu performance. But Mr. Clinton kept the flag and handed back the instrument.

Mr. Clinton played the sax in Prague and Moscow on a European tour in January. But he let down his Polish fans in Warsaw last week and had a small army of journalists scurrying around Bonn Sunday evening in the vain hope of catching him blowing a few notes.

## 2 youths held after rape victim survives burning

STRASBOURG, France (AP) — Two men are being held by police after a 25-year-old nurse was raped and set on fire, judicial officials said Monday. The unidentified men, born in France of Turkish parents, are aged around 25. The victim, who was not named, had described her attackers to police while in hospital. Police were looking for a third man. Sources close to the inquiry said one of those held was the brother of a former boyfriend of the victim, and the attack may be a case of settling a culture-clash score. The woman, who was fighting for her life in hospital Monday with 60 per cent burns, was abducted and raped by three men Friday near Strasbourg in northeastern France. They tied her up, drove her 300 kilometres to a forest, poured petrol over her and set her alight before running away, police said.

Mr. Yeltsin, speaking to state television Sunday night after returning from the summit, urged the United States and other nations to remove punitive trade measures, which he said were hurting the struggling Russian economy.

Mr. Yeltsin said his fellow leaders told him the Russian reforms had been "incredible" and had their full support.

## Moscow hails G-7 summit results

MOSCOW (AP) — The Nations summit signaled a turning point in Russia's economic transformation and demonstrated new international respect for the country, a top cabinet official said Monday.

Economics Minister Alexander Shokhin echoed President Boris Yeltsin's comments on returning from Italy that the Group of Seven leaders had given Russia a strong vote of confidence.

"In the past, they were scared of us and aid was offered not only in exchange for reforms in order to prevent a destabilisation of the situation in Russia," Mr. Shokhin told journalists at the government headquarters in Moscow's White House.

"Now, they've begun to respect us as a full partner," he said.

Like Mr. Yeltsin, the economics minister was jubilant that Russia had been included for the first time as a full partner for at least the weekend summit.

Mr. Shokhin repeatedly referred to the organisation as the Group of Eight — a

somewhat premature assessment until Russia is granted a permanent seat and a role in economic deliberations.

"All the leaders noted that without Russia one cannot envisage a solution of global political problems," he said.

At last year's summit, the world's leading industrialised nations approved \$43 billion in support for Russia. This year's package was much smaller.

"The tone changed. This time we weren't asking for anything," Mr. Shokhin explained.

The Group of Seven — the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Canada and Italy — endorsed additional loans from the International Monetary Fund that Mr. Shokhin said would total about \$4 billion.

The loans must be approved by either the IMF's executive board in Washington or the Fund's board of governors, which next meets in Madrid, Spain, in September.

Over the two-day meeting, Russia backed steps to boost international aid to countries making the transition from

## Details vow to resist a United Ireland

DOVER (R) — Tens of thousands of Northern Ireland Protestants, wearing orange collarettes and bowler hats and accompanied by blaring bands, marched to rallies where prayers were said and political speeches made.

The ceremonies were held to commemorate King William of Orange's 1690 victory over the Catholic King James II at the Battle of the Boyne, which is rich in symbolism and Protestant folklore.

The marchers passed their traditional resolution affirming "devotion and loyalty" to Queen Elizabeth but attacked the British government's handling of Northern Ireland's political problems.

They accused Britain of allowing the government of the Irish Republic to "interfere" in the internal affairs of Northern Ireland and demanded Britain for having had contacts last year with Sinn Fein, the political wing of the IRA.

"We will not become citizens of a united Ireland. There are no political pressures strong enough to propel us in that direction. There are no terrorist pressures sufficient to break our wills," the Orangemen said.

One of the resolutions declared: "As (pro-British) unionists we have to fight our own battles against the forces ranged against us. We cannot depend on the (British) government to defend or to secure our status in the United Kingdom. Unionist unity is essential that task."

They said an internal Northern Ireland solution must be achieved peacefully by the 60 per cent Protestant and 40 per cent Catholic community.

The "Orangemen" wearing orange collarettes and bowler hats and accompanied by blaring bands, marched to rallies where prayers were said and political speeches made.

As part of "Orange Day" ceremonies, bonfires were lit across the province as midnight approached Monday night.

A British Army helicopter was forced down in a football field Tuesday when it was hit by a mortar shell after lifting off from the Newtownhamilton Military Base in South Armagh, police said.

The Puma helicopter was taking off from the heavily fortified joint army and police base in South Armagh near the border with the Irish Republic when the mortar was fired, police said.

Police and army spokesman said there were no reported injuries among the Puma's occupants, and that the extent of the damage to the aircraft was not determined.

They said there was no immediate claim for the attack.

Last March the Irish Republican Army (IRA) shot down an army Lynx helicopter with a mortar as it was going in to land a few miles away at the Crossmaglen base.

The three crewmen were injured — one seriously — when the aircraft crashed from a height of 35 metres (100 feet) and burst into flames.

Tuesday's attack was the 13th in which a helicopter was hit, the fourth time one was brought down.

Until recently the IRA had used heavy calibre machine-guns to attack British military aircraft.

"She is a renegade who outraged Islam and has been involved in anti-state activities. It is hard to believe that the government does not know where she is," Mr. Huq said to cheers from BNP members, parliament officials said.

Mr. Huq broke ranks with other opposition members who have boycotted parliament since February.

## Bangladesh MPs disavow Nasrin support

DHAKA (R) — The secretary-general of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has assured parliament the government did not support feminist writer Taslima Nasrin, in hiding from government arrest and Islamic death threats.

The feminist writer came up for discussion in parliament Monday when one opposition member, Moulana Obaidul Huq from the Islami Oikya Jote, burst into the assembly, saying he wanted to draw attention to the country's "worst problem."

He criticised the government for failing to arrest Nasrin and try her for what Islamic fundamentalists claim was her blasphemy of Islam.

He said Nasrin was not a renegade who outraged Islam and has been involved in anti-state activities. It is hard to believe that the government does not know where she is," Mr. Huq said to cheers from BNP members, parliament officials said.

The Neo-Nazi BNP rejected the accusations.

"It is absolutely rubbish — she just wants more body-

## Khmer Rouge 'locked out of peace process'

PHNOM PENH (R) — Cambodia's first prime minister said on Tuesday the outlawed Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction had locked itself out of the country's peace process by declaring a rebel government.

"The announcement of a so-called provisional government in our Khmer territory is contrary to the constitution — they've absolutely placed themselves outside the constitution," Prince Norodom Ranariddh said on his return to Phnom Penh from a private visit to Hong Kong.

The Khmer Rouge said Monday it had set up a provisional government based in

northern Preah Vihear province.

Prince Ranariddh said. "The law banning the Khmer Rouge provides for up to 30 years' jail for acts of secession or incitement to take up arms.

The Khmer Rouge, responsible for the deaths of one million Cambodians in its bloody reign from 1975 to 1979, continues to wage a low-level guerrilla war to back its demands for a role in government.

"...There won't be any government to support them — not at all and... in my opinion, even if our law leaves the door open for negotiation, he (Samphan) locked the door himself,"

A U.N. official familiar with Cambodian defence issues agreed with the government that the Khmer Rouge's provisional government amounted to a hollow challenge.

Prince Ranariddh said.

The Sowetan quoted Prince Ranariddh as saying: "It is an enormous task to tighten security measures, as we have been advised that there are AWB members who have been noted to be keeping special observation on Mrs. Mandela's movements... her life is at stake."

She was said to have declined the offer as she did not wish to entrust her life to a system that had repeatedly

tried to destroy her in the past.

She had opted instead to retain bodyguards from the African National Congress (ANC).

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## U.S., French agree to equalise AIDS test royalties

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. and French health researchers have attempted to end a long feud over AIDS research by announcing a more equal split of royalties from a test to detect the deadly disease.

The U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH) announced a new distribution plan that will give the French more money. Under a 1987 agreement, Americans have collected \$6 million more than the French.

The new accord is designed to put an end to a feud between French and U.S. health researchers that first erupted in the 1980s over who discovered the AIDS virus and then continued over dividing proceeds from the sale of AIDS testing kits.

"This is recognition that all diagnostic tests sold in the world, including in the United States, are a direct application of French work. This is a great satisfaction to us," he said.

"The Americans recognise that Institut Pasteur played a decisive role, a major public

health role," he said.

Robert Gallo, the chief American researcher who first claimed credit for discovering the AIDS virus in 1984 about the same time the French did, said in a statement that "it is now time for this episode to be permanently closed."

Americans have received more money than the French, researchers said, because more Americans acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) testing kits were sold than French kits.

Under a 1987 settlement over whether French or American scientists discovered the virus causing the deadly disease, medical institutes of both countries were to share the patent and royalties from the AIDS screening tests.

But the United States has received about \$2 for every \$1.40 received by the French in royalties since that agreement, which was announced at a meeting between President Ronald Reagan and French President Jacques Chirac.

The Americans recognise that Institut Pasteur played a decisive role, a major public

## Astronaut growing in orbit now too tall

ATLANTA, Georgia (R) — NASA might have to rethink its height requirements.

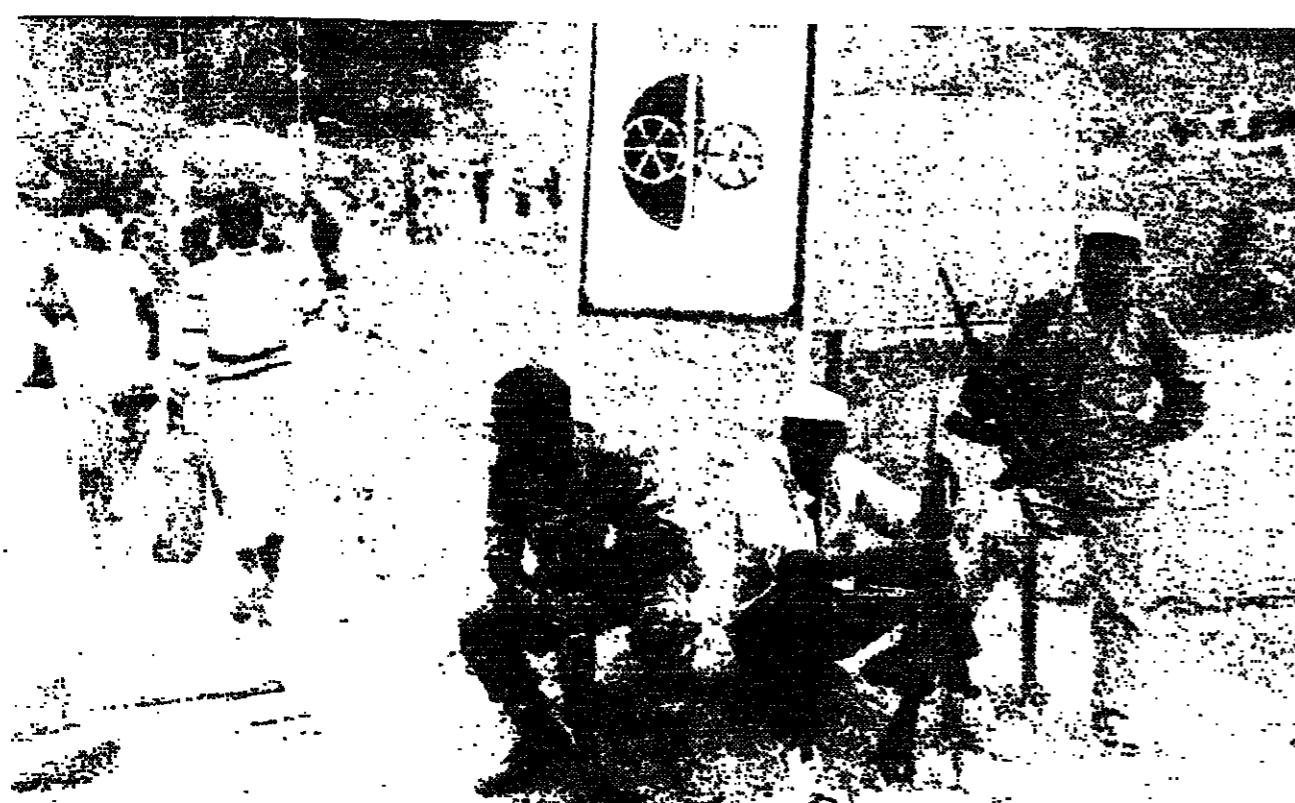
Space commander Fred Hieb is growing in orbit — and he now exceeds NASA's height limit for astronauts.

Hieb started the two-week laboratory mission Friday at 6 feet 3 inches (1.9 metres). On Monday, he topped 6 feet 4 (1.93 metres), the limit for anyone on a space shuttle, according to my quick calculations. I seem to be growing about an inch or so. So I'm now too tall to fly

in space," Hieb informed payload controllers after measuring himself as part of a medical experiment.

"I just hope the flight director's listening," a ground controller in Alabama told him. "We heard that," a voice from mission control in Houston said.

Astronaut



Soldiers of the Rwandan army watch at the entrance of the city of Kivumu in west Rwanda the arrival of hundreds of

refugees who flee battles only two kilometres from Kivumu (AFP photo)

## U.N. announces Bosnia truce extension

SARAJEVO (R) — Bosnia's Muslim-led government and the United Nations agreed Tuesday to extend a much-violated truce for a month after it expired at the weekend.

The agreement was announced by U.N. special envoy Yasushi Akashi after talks in Sarajevo with Bosnian government leaders the Bosnian Serbs have already indicated they will support the truce extension.

The truce accord comes as both sides are under increasing pressure to accept the latest international peace plan to end Bosnia's 27-month-old war.

U.S. mediator Charles Redman arrived in Sarajevo and said the international community expected a clear "yes" to the peace plan or it would move swiftly to consider a "carrot and stick" programme to bring the rival factions into line.

British and French foreign ministers were beginning a mission to the former Yugoslavia aimed at persuading the Bosnian Serbs, who would have to cede the most territory, to accept the "last chance" peace proposal. Diplomats and United Na-

tions officials believe, however, that both sides are likely to hedge their response to the peace plan in the interests of prolonging negotiations while seeking to consolidate or expand their land holdings.

"Given the diplomatic pressures building, neither side can afford to be seen to say 'no' to the peace plan," said a U.N. official in Sarajevo who asked not to be named. "Each side in its own way will say 'yes' and mean 'no'."

The United Nations meanwhile reported continued fighting between Serbs and Muslims in north central Bosnia — although at a slightly reduced intensity — together with further clashes in the contested northwestern Bihać enclave.

In Sarajevo, Mr. Redman said he expected Serbs and Muslims to reply to the peace plan on July 20.

And if they failed to back the plan, ministers of the "contact group" — the U.S., Russia, France, Germany and Britain — would weigh measures to ensure compliance.

"We have asked for clear-cut answers on July 20," Mr. Redman told reporters. "We certainly hope there will be

no 'buts'." "If there are, we will analyse them and we will do that very quickly so the ministers can meet before the end of the month."

"We expect the ministers will be prepared to address the question of incentives and disincentives if the answer is anything other than a 'yes'."

The international community has bailed the latest plan, which divides the country roughly in half between the Serbs and the Muslim-Croat federation, as a last chance for peace.

The Bosnian Muslims have already indicated they will endorse it, while the Serbs, who face tougher sanctions if they refuse it, have been less enthusiastic despite public pressure from their backers in Belgrade.

Diplomats worry the Bosnian government may however be talking peace while its army is preparing for more war.

And observers suspect the Bosnian Serbs are betting the major powers are so hungry for a peace deal and so divided among themselves they will be willing to continue talking so long as they do not mount any major offensive.

## Clinton pledges U.S. eternal support for Germany

BERLIN (AFP) — U.S. President Bill Clinton pledged to the people of reunited Germany and its capital Berlin Tuesday that America stands by their side and will always do so.

In a powerful speech of homage to the courage of the citizens of Berlin who withstood 40 years of cold war, Mr. Clinton declared: "You have proved that no wall can forever contain the mighty power of freedom."

To an applauding crowd of about 40,000 people he declared in German and English: "America is on your side, now and forever."

He gave the speech in front of the Brandenburg Gate after walking through the arch, which used to mark the division of the city and has now come to symbolise German unity.

The U.S. president recalled the decades of resistance against Stalinist oppression, from those who threw stones at tanks in the Berlin workers' uprising of June 17, 1953, up to the movement in the streets of Leipzig of 1989.

"You found the courage to endure, to resist, to tear down the walls," he said, flanked by his wife Hillary, Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Mr. Kohl's wife Hannelore who accompanied him in a foursome on a walk to the gate.

"Now you must find a new courage civil," he told Berliners. "The courage to build. The Berlin Wall is gone. Now our generation must decide: What will we build in its

place?"

"Standing here today, we can see the answer," Mr. Clinton said, presenting a Europe of free independent nations living in democracy, a Europe of free market reforms where children were raised in peace and hope.

But the president also warned that "the work of freedom is not easy," and said it required discipline, responsibility, the ability to withstand failure, and also vigilance.

"Here in Germany, in the United States and throughout the entire world, we must reject those who would divide us with scalding words

about race, ethnicity or religion," he said.

"Believe that you can live in peace with those who are different from you. Believe in your own future. Believe you can make a difference, and summon your own courage to build, and you will."

He saw reason to believe in the new future that was already taking shape, he said, "in the growing chorus of voices that speak the common language of democracy, in the growing economies of Western Europe and the United States and their partners," in the progress of economic reforms and democracy in lands where there had

been none, and in NATO's Partnership for Peace association of former Soviet Bloc states with the Western military alliance.

In the name of the pilots of the Berlin airlift which countered the Soviet blockade of the city in 1949, of the soldiers who manned the Checkpoint Charlie crossing place between east and west Berlin, of all other American presidents who had come to Berlin, and of those American troops who would stay in Germany to "guard freedom's future," Mr. Clinton declared in German and English: "America is on your side, now and forever."

## 'Sit-at-home' order strike heeded in Nigeria

LAGOS (AFP) — Strike action aimed at pressuring the military government to release Nigeria's detained pro-democracy leader intensified Tuesday as a "sit-at-home" order issued by a Nigerian trade union was apparently well heeded.

The stay-at-home call issued by the Lagos branch of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) came as a fuel distribution strike which has paralysed supplies went into its eighth day.

The Labour Congress gave the order to pressure the military into releasing jailed

pro-democracy leader Chief Moshood Abiola and other political detainees.

The NLC also wants media organisations shut last month to re-open and to force the government to enter into negotiations with pro-democracy associations.

Mr. Abiola, who has been jailed since last month, was the apparent winner of the June 12, 1993 presidential election which was annulled by the military government on grounds of fraud.

Only a handful of communal taxis were seen Tuesday morning on Lagos roads

while the buses which are the main means of transport in the city of about six million people were few and far between because of fuel scarcity, caused by the strike by the powerful oil and gas union NUPENG.

Most private, government offices and diplomatic missions visited by AFP were empty as staff were either at home or stranded at bus stops.

The few available buses were charging up to four times the normal fare.

Only a few flights had taken off at the domestic

wing of the Murtala Muhammed Airport here Tuesday morning because of a shortage of aviation fuel.

Passenger turn-out at the airport was equally very low, which had forced some airlines to begin rescheduling their flight times, he added.

The scarcity of fuel, which has practically paralysed Lagos and other areas of the country, is due to a strike by the NUPENG (National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers) which began last Monday to press the military government to release Mr. Abiola.

## Rebels welcome gradual French withdrawal from Rwanda

KIGALI (R) — Rebels welcomed Tuesday a gradual pullout of French troops from western Rwanda but warned Paris against protecting officials accused of plotting massacres in which more than 500,000 people are believed to have died.

As Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) forces thrust into the government-held west, a senior rebel official said the RPF would not call a unilateral ceasefire until it was sure the killings were over.

"If the French stick to their mandate of ensuring humanitarian relief, then we have nothing against a gradual withdrawal," said Major Wilson Kutayisire, RPF commissioner of information.

French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur told the United Nations Monday that France had fulfilled its mission in Rwanda and it was time for the U.N. to send troops to head off a fresh crisis.

But Mr. Balladur and Foreign Minister Alain Juppe no longer insisted that all French troops would leave by July 31. Mr. Juppe said there would be a "progressive" withdrawal as U.N. forces arrived.

Major Rutayisire told reporters in the capital Kigali that the 2,500 French troops could stay as long as they wanted if they abided by the humanitarian mandate for Operation Turquoise, as France's mission in Rwanda is known.

"But if they are here to protect criminals, those people who masterminded the genocide, then even a single day is too long."

French commander Brigadier-General Jean-Claude Lafourcade said Monday that if the interim Rwandan government now held up on the border with Zaire fled to French operation areas, "we would allow them as mere refugees."

He said it would be up to an international inquiry to decide who was responsible

for the massacres, in which aid officials estimate more than half a million people have died since early April — mostly members of the Tutsi minority and Hutu government opponents.

The bloodletting followed

the death of President Juvenal Habyarimana, killed in a rocket attack on his plane on April 6 along with the president of neighbouring Burundi as they returned to Rwanda from regional peace talks in Tanzania. Both presidents were members of the Hutu tribe.

RPF forces were reported Monday to be only two kilometres from the garrison town of Ruhengeri and set to push for Gisenyi, where the self-declared government has taken refuge in a luxury hotel near the border with eastern Zaire.

Major Rutayisire said more than 1,000 people were fleeing daily from camps in French-protected havens in the southwest, complaining of a lack of food, medicine and a lack of medical operating in the area.

France says that almost a million refugees, most of them Hutus, are under the protection of French and Senegalese troops in the southwest, where most of the massacres have stopped.

Jacques Buhizigara, an RPF political bureau member, said a new government expected to be set up shortly would call a ceasefire only when the rebels were satisfied.

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He said the government, its army and extremist Hutu militias killed indiscriminately and still controlled parts of Rwanda.

Mr. Buhizigara said the RPF refused to talk to anyone implicated in massacre, including a faction of senior

army officers who distanced themselves from the interim government at the weekend.

"These officers were part of the crisis committee set up after Mr. Habyarimana's death. They were part of the group responsible for the massacres," the rebel official said.

Identity cards in Rwanda include the tribe of the bearer and were the main means used by troops and militiamen to determine who would be butchered as a Tutsi or survive as a Hutu.

In Bujumbura, Burundi's Constitutional Court has extended Interim President Sylvester Ntizantuganya's term for three months while parties struggle to agree on a new head of state.

The court agreed Monday to the extension requested by Mr. Ntizantuganya before his three-month term expired Tuesday.



## Court frees Germany for world military role

KARLSRUHE, Germany (R) — Germany shook off self-imposed military fetters adopted after World War II when the Supreme Court ruled Tuesday that Bonn could join international armed missions.

The judges ended a row in Bonn over united Germany's new world role by saying the 1949 constitution did not stop its troops from joining United Nations peacekeeping or combat missions.

"Peace forces and their task of securing peace are part of the United Nations' system of collective security as it has developed through the practical application of the U.N. charter which the Federal Republic of Germany joined in 1973," the eight-judge panel ruled.

At the same time, the constitutional Court said Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government had infringed the rights of parliament by not consulting it before sending troops to help monitor U.N.-imposed sanctions and a no-fly zone in former Yugoslavia, and to join peacekeepers in Somalia.

It made clear that in future parliament would have to approve such missions by a simple majority.

Government leaders, who only have said future missions will only be undertaken with U.N. allies and not alone, said after the ruling Germany was not interested in playing "world policeman."

"Germany will never pursue an interventionist policy. Our foreign and security policy will not be militarised, you can be sure of that," Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel told reporters after attending the ruling.

Asked if Bonn would now send troops to Rwanda to back forces from close ally France who have set up safe areas for civil war refugees, Mr. Kinkel said: "I don't see that at the moment."

Defense Minister Volker Ruehe, who also attended the ruling, added: "We are not discussing any individual cases now."

Mr. Kohl welcomed the decision, which gave the final green light for his drive since unification in 1990 to take a wider global role after four decades of a purely defensive role in NATO.

Alexander Lukashenko, the new Belarus president, promised his electorate to dig the country out of the economic abyss by restoring the principles of the Soviet Union. "His fame is due in part to the fact that he has always been opposed, even in 1991, to the death of the Soviet Union," said a Russian specialist.

Ukraine, known as the bread basket of the Soviet Union, had strong heavy industry. But its economy is unbalanced between east and west, it depends for its energy on Moscow and its natural resources — potassium.

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## Jordan Times

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### No apologies on this side

THE MEDIA uproar about Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' impending visit to Jordan to take part in the trilateral meeting on July 20 or July 22 is probably overblown given the fact that Amman and the rest of the Arab parties have engaged the Israeli side in face-to-face talks ever since the Madrid conference nearly three years ago. The arrival into the Kingdom of an Israeli delegation was to be expected in the wake of the agreement between the two sides to deal head on with their pressing bilateral disputes. That is also why the announcement by His Majesty King Hussein that he is willing to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin should be also put in proper perspective as in keeping with the general framework of peace negotiations between the two countries.

There is no turning back from the decision to seek a peaceful resolution of the conflict with Israel. It would be illogical to sue for peace with Israel while pretending that direct encounters on the highest possible levels are not acceptable or anathema to national interest. The main point here is not whether an Arab statesman meets his Israeli counterpart; rather the issue is what actually transpires from such talks. As long as the outcome of peace negotiations is honourable and in conformity with public interest there can be no room for hiding from the necessity of dealing with the enemy in the most direct manner.

The Palestinian side has been engaging Israeli officials out in the open for many years already and have scored results that appear to be to their satisfaction. The Syrian side as well has sat face to face with the Israeli side since October 1991 although without any solid results yet. We in Jordan have a duty towards ourselves to explore all avenues for peaceful resolution of the disputes between us and the Israeli side. We have certain territorial and water rights that we shall insist on no matter how long it would take to attain these national objectives. We have already made an agreement with Israel on fundamentals as expressed in the declaration of principles signed by both parties. These preliminary accords call for amplifications that would render such early agreements more sensible. There is no sure sign yet that the impending Jordanian-Israeli peace talks would produce definitive consequences. That is why what lies ahead will be hard bargaining on both sides. We can count on our negotiating team, however, to persevere in insisting on all our national rights. They have proven themselves on earlier occasions and they will not fail us this time around.

### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I ARABIC daily Tuesday demanded that China, Russia and France lead the efforts at the United Nations to end the embargo on Iraq now that it has implemented all U.N. Security Council resolutions. The daily said that the U.N. inspection teams have completed their tasks of destroying Iraq's capabilities to make nuclear weapons and have installed cameras to monitor any violations, and, in addition, the Iraqis have complied with the other resolutions leaving no justification for the continued sanctions. France, China and Russia, which hold permanent seats at the Security Council, have been advocating the idea of ending the sanctions and the time has come for them to translate their words into deeds and help end the sufferings of the Iraqi people, demanded the daily. These three nations are also required to prove to the world that they are not merely implementing American orders and are keen on enabling the United Nations to exercise its free role in handling world issues, added the paper. It said that continued sanctions on the Iraqi people are bound to bring about very serious consequences to the whole Middle East area.

Tareq Masa'weh, a columnist in Al Ra'i, expressed the view that the Arabs are in no position to reject or accept peace plans offered them by others. Despite the fact that the Arabs deep down refuse the idea of something imposed on them, they have very little room for manoeuvre, said the writer. The Arabs have been rendered weak because the Arab League proved to be impotent over the past decades, said the writer. Saying that the Arab World has had the chance in the past five decades to rise and achieve just and permanent peace, he said the Arabs failed to achieve that. The writer said that the Arabs have only themselves to blame for the present disarray in their ranks and have to accept what is offered them rather than wait for a worse offer.



### U.N. meeting debates Palestinian problem, peace, democracy in Mideast

#### 'Israel cannot expect security as long as it remains in occupation'

support would be assistance with the preparation and monitoring of the forthcoming elections.

The encounter was organised by the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) and was hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark. The coordinator and secretary was Mustapha Tili, chief of the Palestine and Decolonisation Section of the DPI.

The panellists were Samir Abdallah, chief of the Department of Economic Policies and Project Selection, Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction; Haider Abdul Shafi, president of the Red Crescent Society in Gaza; M. Nasser Al Kidwa, permanent observer for Palestine to the United Nations; Abdullah Bouhabib, adviser to the World Bank's Vice-President for the Middle East and North Africa Region; Helle Degn, Denmark's minister for cooperation and development, who also gave the keynote address on the second day of the encounter.

In concluding remarks, Under-Secretary-General Vladimir Petrovsky, director-general of the United Nations office at Geneva, who acted as moderator for the meeting, said peace was a partnership which required trust, and was based on security. "The security which I wish to underscore here describes a more comprehensive state of the human condition. The secretary-general has affirmed that this means, at the very least, freedom from hunger, torture, fear and disease."

It should be clear that security itself was bound up with development in all its aspects, he said. In his "Agenda for Development", Secretary-General Boutros Ghali had stated that development was a prerequisite for peace and at the same time had pointed out that peace was the foundation of development. "In other words, there is no escaping the dual nature of each condition," Mr. Petrovsky added.

Democracy was an essential foundation for security and the best guarantee for peace, he continued. It was also a prime United Nations concern, which implied not just elections, but the creation and strengthening of institutions which encouraged and sustained the expression of a people's needs and demands. Pointing out that 1995 would mark the 50th anniversary of the United Nations and would also be a year dedicated to world tolerance, he said, "what truly offends the conscience of humankind is bigotry and aggression."

The encounter was opened June 15 by Niels Helleve Petersen, minister for foreign affairs of Denmark, who said in his opening address that peace was a genuine prospect in the Middle East. Citing the European Union's decision to support the Middle East peace process through joint action, he said one of the important elements of that

In a discussion on security, Dr. Abdul Shafi said there could be no peace without security. He said the Zionist claim over Palestine, and the decision to implement that claim by force, was the main reason for the absence of peace in the Middle East region.

"Israel cannot expect security as long as it remains in occupation," he said.

Dr. Shiyab agreed, saying that Israel's military might, aggressive image and population transfer policies were reasons for concern. Refugees and displaced persons' issues were directly related to Jordan's

not, except in one or two cases, tried to change the rules of the game after the fact", he added.

Dr. Hamarneh said he failed to see a direct link between the peace process and democratisation. The indirect link was certainly there and would help the elected authority deal with questions such as taxation and accountability of finance. Citing the experience of Jordan and other Arab countries, he said there was no guarantee that the peace process, like the modernisation process before it in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, would automatically lead to democratisation in the Middle East as a whole.

From the Israeli perspective, two levels of security were identified as important to the present situation by Mr. Heller: the conventional military issue — the question of relations between forces and the possibility of the use of territory for offensive military purposes; and the issue of terrorism.

"Safety mechanisms need to be built into peace agreements to ensure against any backtracking". Mr. Heller said. Those mechanisms could be found under the general heading of arms control and confidence-building measures, but particularly by prohibiting the military use, by any other party, of territory from which Israel withdraws. A functioning Palestinian administration and security authority would always be in a position to do a better job of counter terrorism than would an Israeli military presence in the area, he added.

Both Mr. Shiyab and

Mr. Heller agreed that in the broader regional context, a mechanism was needed to address the major strategic issues facing the region as a whole.

Some important regional actors were as yet uninvolved, including Syria, Iraq and Iran.

Addressing the final session of the encounter devoted to the process of democratisation, Dr. Abdul Shafi said that the Palestinians were committed to the objectives of democracy and insisted on conducting elections in the territories as soon as possible. However, complications might arise because of the stipulation in the 1993 Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Governance Arrangements that elections be held on the basis of an Israeli-Palestinian agreement. "This is strictly a Palestinian issue," he said. If the Israelis also stuck to their present position on the non-participation of Palestinians living in East Jerusalem in free elections, they would not only be violating the terms of the declaration and delaying the process, but also indicating that the fate of Jerusalem was already established.

Mr. Salameh agreed that the most urgent and crucial issue was that elections be held. Refuting the argument that elections at the present stage would be a de facto referendum on settlement provisions which possibly would lead to the election of extremists, he said, "If elections are not held, the extremists will be gaining power, not losing it... Wherever Islamists have participated in the electoral process in the Arab World, they have

Soundings a note of caution. Mr. Quandt said that certain issues were still outstanding and that there was a set of challenges that the Palestinians must face. "The Palestinians have historical and political experience, but if it turns out that the Gaza-Jericho agreement is just a first step towards self-government in the entire West Bank and Gaza, they will be entering a new era."

On the final status issue, Mr. Quandt said it was "something of a myth" to think it could wait for two years. The issues involved were integrally linked to the present. The peace-making process should be continuous. "Enemies of the process will take advantage of any lull," he warned. The forthcoming elections would matter a great deal. They marked the beginning of building national institutions. "The Palestinians will prove to be the pace-setters of democratisation in the Arab World," he added.

### Ensuring safety on the road

By John Dales

THE RECENT tragic accident on a road outside Irbid came only two days after the Jordan Times (June 25) had again published an editorial about the pressing need to tackle road safety problems in the Kingdom. Such a graphic reminder that these problems persist must now lead to a concerted attempt by all concerned to bring about a solution. If it does not, then the 31(?) who were killed at Muthallath Al Naimeh will, truly, have died in vain.

A key to the solution is to understand that, in this context, the phrase "all concerned" means "all of us". It is all too easy to point the finger, and in this recent disaster a wretched tractor driver has been nominated as the scapegoat. Some survivors seem to think that the buses they were travelling in were going too quickly. Others might make reference to the design of the road in question or to the apparent absence of speed limit signs. Whatever the facts in this particular case, it seems to be human nature to want to be able to lay the blame for any unpleasant state of affairs on an easily-identifiable target. This may be convenient, but the truth is not often so straightforward.

At the risk of moving too rapidly away from a genuine human tragedy to a theoretical example, I would like to present the following commonplace example of how complex the issue can be. Imagine that a vehicle is following another along a busy street. They approach a parked car, from behind which a young boy runs into the road. The leading vehicle screeches to a halt and thankfully avoids hitting the child. However, the second vehicle does not stop in time and crashes into the back of the leading one. A passenger in the second vehicle is seriously injured and taken to hospital. Who might be to blame?

Could it be the child? After all, the leading vehicle wouldn't have had to brake at all if the boy had stayed out of the road. But perhaps the driver of that vehicle was driving too fast. Then there's the driver of the following vehicle, maybe he was chatting to his friend at the crucial time and didn't see the vehicle in front braking as soon as he could have. But why, if that was the case, was it only his friend who was injured? Was the friend perhaps not wearing a safety belt? And what about the parked car? Was it parked illegally? Perhaps its driver was at fault.

Without any trouble, therefore, we have found five individuals each of whom might be, at least in some way, to blame for the accident and/or the injury it caused. Even if this incident happened in reality, it might not be possible to get to the root of the matter.

Then, what about the issue of indirect responsibility? Why did the boy dash out into the road? Were parents or older children responsible for keeping him safe? Had he ever received even the most basic road safety training at school or at home? Could the police have moved the parked car on? Should parking restrictions have been in force? Was the road at that point an awkward bend? Were there any railings to help keep the boy on the sidewalk? In what condition were the tyres of the vehicles involved? Had it been raining?

I raise so many different questions simply to show that, in the case of any road accident, a great number of factors may have contributed to the incident and many of these could actually have been involved. But this is not an exercise in illustrating complexity: what I am trying to do is to change our perspective from one where we seek to apportion blame to one where we seek to identify responsibility.

In some respects, I know, these two words can be used synonymously. There is an old saying, though, that "prevention is better than a cure." For me, blame is all about the latter, trying in some way

to deal with an unpleasant incident after it has taken place. Responsibility, in this context, is a much more positive word. Blame will always remain something that only applies after the fact. But the identification of responsibility can lead to prevention.

Which brings us back to incidents such as the Muthallath Al Naimeh crash. If all we do is blame someone we gain nothing except possibly a short-term outlet for grief or anger. Instead it is essential that we learn what we can that will help us to reduce the likelihood of a similar disaster occurring in the future. This is an exercise which must involve the identification of who needs to take responsibility for change. While we might generally put the onus on "the authorities" in this respect, the government, the police, engineers, legislators, etc. we are all road users, either as drivers, passengers, pedestrians or a combination of all three. Thus it becomes clear that no-one is without some form of responsibility for ensuring that similar accidents are avoided in the future.

But will each accept their share of the responsibility? The task is enormous and we can easily fear that our own contribution is worthless. Every member and every part of society has a part to play. Each of us as individuals must take more responsibility for our own actions as drivers, passengers and pedestrians. Schools must be able to give adequate road safety training to children. Parents must take responsibility for their children's welfare. The police have a major role in the enforcement of traffic law. The government has a legislative role and tremendous power to influence the actions of others.

Perhaps the single factor most likely to hamper efforts to improve road safety is that age-old problem that many of the solutions are not available in the short term. We can easily lose our enthusiasm for change. But, as they say, you've got to start somewhere. In Britain, the government set a target of reducing the number of casualties in road accidents by 35 per cent between 1985 and the year 2000, a 15-year period. Yet, I'm glad to say, the country is well on its way to meeting the target. In London, for instance, the 1991 casualty level was 15 per cent below that of 1985. The level fluctuates, of course, but the overall trend is encouragingly downwards.

This success was made possible by experts and campaigners encouraging the government to take a national lead. Local councils are now all required to produce an annual road safety plan to demonstrate progress and proposed action. This action is in each of seven "key areas": the planning process itself; ensuring the availability of accurate information about the nature and scale of the problems; engineering works; education and training; enforcement of traffic legislation; encouragement of improved road safety by advertising campaigns; and the co-ordination of resources such that everyone is working towards the same objective. All seven areas must be strong to ensure progress. A big task; but as the author of the road safety plan for a London municipality, I can add my own testimony that this approach works.

Will it happen in Jordan? The basic conditions are already in place. Experts and campaigners, such as the Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents (SPRA) and the Jordan Times, are raising their voices. Sadly, the director of the SPRA was quoted recently as saying that, "It seems that nobody listens." Perhaps the additional cries of the victims of the latest tragedy will provide the vital breakthrough. The government can take the lead. Will it? And if it does, will the nation respond? The writer is a British traffic engineer working in Jordan.

## Educating children of war

By Vidhushi Vasudeva

**KARTON KASSALA**, some 30 kilometres from the centre of the Sudanese capital Khartoum, is a barren quarter where rows of crudely built mud dwellings are separated by sandy stretches of land with little vegetation. Goats browse placidly through heaps of garbage under the scorching sun. Over the years since 1985 it has become the destination of waves of people displaced by the civil war in the south. Its population is now approximately 65,000.

One of the residents is 15-year-old Juma Al Nour, who came to live with his uncle five years ago to escape from the terror and misery of armed conflict in Bahr El Ghazal state. Tall and lean, Juma can be seen every morning walking to Escofia Primary School where he is in the fifth grade. Juma wants to be a doctor when he grows up, and he especially enjoys studying science. "I want to help people suffering from disease and sickness," he tells a visitor with a shy smile. The school also gives him an opportunity to play sports, and his long legs and agility make him particularly good at soccer.

Juma's school was established in 1989 and consists of a row of five brick classrooms, each about 14 metres by eight metres, and a smaller room used as an office. Next to the brick structures is a red hall used for evening classes. Eight toilets have been constructed for the use of the pupils. The rest of the school's 3,500 square metres of land is used as a playground where pupils play soccer and volleyball. There is no water source and drinking water has to be bought daily from water sellers.

Parents and teachers work together to solve the problems faced by the children. The current priorities of the Parents and Teachers Association are provision of breakfast to the pupils, safe water through the installation of handpumps, and improvements in hygiene and sanitation.

The school has a total of 300 pupils and 11 teachers. The lower classes have an average of 60 pupils each while in grades five and six the average declines to 35.

Dropout rates are high because children need to help at home or earn an income. Juma shares his classroom with 31 other pupils, most of them boys. The classroom, like the others beside it, is filled with neat rows of desks and benches. The teachers have between three and five years' experience, three have a teacher-training diploma obtained after a two-year course.

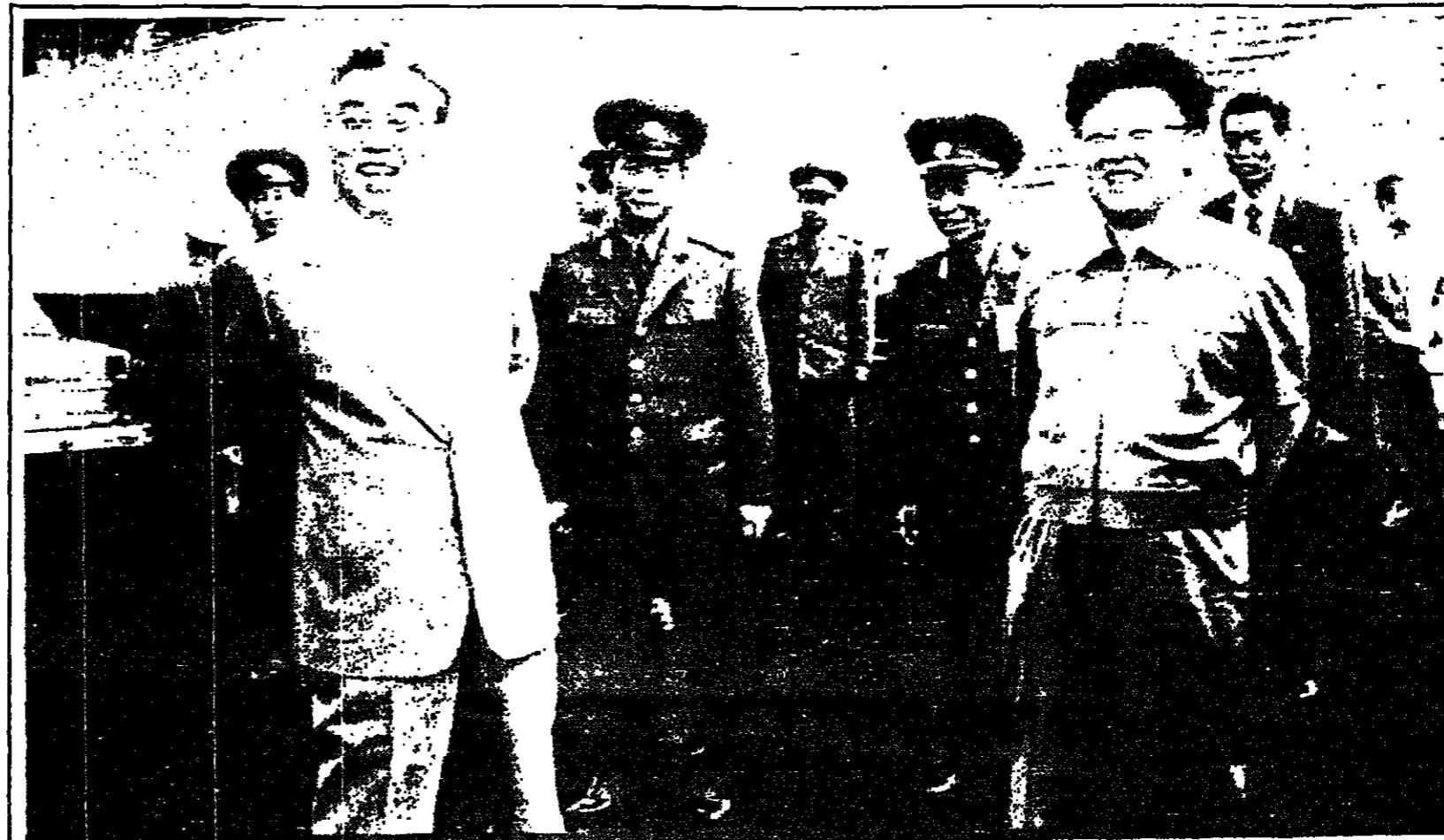
Escofia Primary School is an example of how UNICEF works in partnership with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and ministries to improve the lives of children in Sudan. UNICEF supplied educational materials for the school, which was established and is operated by the Save the Children Fund (U.K.). The NGO also helped with the construction of the school. The curriculum is approved by the Ministry of Education.

Juma is lucky not only to be going to school, but to a school where the classrooms are relatively spacious and the environment conducive to study. Hundreds of thousands of displaced children in Sudan do not get the opportunity to go to school. Those that do frequently study in overcrowded makeshift classrooms, sitting on earthen blocks or stones; or they have no classrooms and are given lessons in the open air.

Few schools for the displaced have access to safe water and adequate sanitation. The schools also suffer from a shortage of teachers, textbooks and other educational materials. The dropout rate is high: A 1994 census of children in exceptionally difficult circumstances in Juba (capital of Bahr El Ghazal state) found that 30.6 per cent had dropped out of school. The reasons for this were mostly socio-economic, with inability to continue paying school fees topping the list.

In 1992, UNICEF started its Emergency Education Programme in Sudan with a U.S.\$2.4 million contribution from the Netherlands government. The main aims of the programme are the rehabilitation of basic education infrastructure and the opening up of educational opportunities to displaced children. The programme components in-

The writer is a freelance writer residing in Sudan.



THE "DEAR LEADER" Kim Jong-Il (R) stands next to his late father President Kim Il-Sung (AFP photo)

## Kim Jong Il, long groomed to be next 'great leader'

By Roger Crabb  
Reuter

TOKYO — The eldest son of North Korean President Kim Il-Sung, whose death was announced on Saturday, was groomed by his father for 20 years to succeed him in the Communist world's first dynastic handover.

A mysterious, reclusive figure, the chubby, bespectacled Kim Jong-Il, 52, had already taken over much of the day-to-day running of the isolated Stalinist state in recent years and in 1991 officially assumed control of its million-strong army.

Yet speculation persisted, fuelled by defectors' reports, that there was stubborn opposition to the younger Kim within the military and in sectors of the ruling party and government.

Foreign intelligence sources called him a capricious, unstable playboy and held him responsible for several terrorist attacks on South Korean targets in the 1980s.

He was widely blamed for masterminding the 1983 rangoon bomb that killed top ministers of visiting

South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan, and the 1987 bomb that destroyed a civilian airliner over the Andaman Sea, killing all 115 aboard.

Yet, to state media within North Korea's hermetically sealed borders, Kim Jong-Il could do no wrong.

Dubbed the "dear leader" to distinguish him from his father, who was the "great leader", he increasingly inherited the towering personality cult that raised his father to godlike status.

North Korea's press heaped praise on him at every turn, crediting him with inspiring higher production, technical inventions and cultural advances. Although he never spent a day in the armed forces, he was regularly dubbed a "military genius."

In one especially bizarre twist, newspapers seized on a new hybrid flower called "kimjongilia," named after him by a Japanese horticulturist, as proof of his glorious reputation was spreading widely abroad.

At the time of his father's death, Kim Jong-Il ranked second only to Kim Il-Sung in key organs of the Communist ruling Workers' Party.

He was not, however, among the four state vice-presidents, a gap in his responsibilities that prompted speculation that he might not, after all, inherit the presidency.

Little is known for sure about the man Kim Il-Sung chose to inherit his absolute sway over North Korea's 22 million souls. Despite the relentless propaganda barrage, his voice is almost never broadcast. He is rarely photographed, and he rarely greets foreign dignitaries. He left that task to his father, who remained active to the end.

Factual information about the younger Kim is virtually non-existent.

The official press says he

was born in the deep forests of North Korea's sacred mountain Paekdu on February 16, 1942, at a secret camp on the Chinese border as Korean guerrillas fought Japanese troops.

He was the first of two sons born to Kim Il-Sung and his deceased first wife, Kim Jong-Suk. His brother later died but he has a younger sister. One half-brother is Kim Pyong-Il, reported this year to have been named ambassador to Finland.

Though his formative years are shrouded in mystery, Kim Jong-Il is believed to have spent the 1950-53 Korean war in China. Later, he went to school in East Germany where he was said to have learned to fly airplanes.

He graduated in 1963

from Kim Il-Sung University in Pyongyang, where he studied politics and economics.

According to unconfirmed reports, he has two children

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## Let North and South set a global contract

By Francois Mitterrand

PARIS — How can we accept that millions of men, women and children in the poor Southern countries continue to die in front of our television cameras? If these awful sights lead us to feel compassion, that is all very well. But our reactions of late have too often been only capricious.

I fear that those of us in the richer countries of the North have gone in recent years from an embarrassed indifference to a smug indifference about it all. Each country, it seems, is now only concerned with its own backyard. Any interest in development has dwindled. Some governments are even saying that if the poor countries can't get out of their crisis, it is their own problem and probably their own fault because they are not trying. This is a tragedy.

The truth is that our entire planet will become uninhabitable if we buy into the illusion that we need only make it inhabitable for the few. It is foolish to believe otherwise. It first of all makes sense from the standpoint of expanding trade to incorporate everyone into the global economy; and if we create some kind of a global outerclass by excluding whole parts of the globe from growth, then diseases such as AIDS, the flow of drugs and the environmental destruction wrought by poverty will duly exact their price on the smog in times to come. For these reasons we need to make sure the poor countries do not stay on the fringe.

Inequalities continue to grow despite the claim that the global market is the panacea for all ills. Relying on humanitarian assistance and the rules of the market are insufficient to cope with a situation where one-fifth of humanity lives below the poverty line.

What we need instead is a "development contract" between the North and the



rights. If development is only considered in its financial dimension, just as there is a single global view on the environment that emerged from the Rio summit.

Such a contract must be based on a new international ethical-moral code. I know this has been said before and some have disparaged it. But if we do not start with that we won't get very far.

Development aid must become something more than a means to help the poor countries respect their financial obligations: it must be a means to help bolster respect for social and moral contracts within societies and within the world community.

It is all linked together. If no development takes place, then there can be no lasting domestic peace in these countries torn by strife. In the midst of poverty and strife there is something that should be a particular focal point. The new South Africa is a very good example to follow.

There are three elements to the development contract I propose:

**Development contract:** If all the industrialised countries would commit to a goal of setting aside 0.7 per cent of their gross domestic product to development aid, \$130 billion would be made available for investment in infrastructure, education and health in the poor countries.

I am not suggesting that my own country has been perfect in this particular area, but we have increased aid by 40 per cent in real terms, bringing us quite close to that goal. France has also cancelled or rescheduled debts to 39 of the poorest countries in the world.

The International Monetary Fund should also make available Special Drawing Rights for the neediest of its member countries. For now the IMF only serves to in-

crease the profits of the rich nations that were members before 1981, and not the 36 newer members who need funds the most.

If this injustice of the world finance system were corrected, it would make another \$50 billion in hard currency available for indispensable development.

**Mutual respect:** The leaders of developing countries have made it clear that they do not want to be sacrificed to the liberalism of global free markets. In turn these countries must be asked to respect the rights of workers. It is unbearable to see the absence of trade unions and workers' rights in so many countries, and to see how children and prisoners are exploited. It is disgraceful to see that countries which justly struggled for independence from colonialism are violating the rights of their own people.

We need some common understanding between North and South on these matters.

**Inventive arrangements:** When the countries of the South organise themselves to seek fair market prices for their commodities — be they coffee or wood — in the world market, they are on the right track. When countries of the South cooperate with other countries of the South, they are contributing to their own success. These kinds of arrangements must be encouraged.

We can no longer entrust the development of the world to monetary rules alone. We must resist the trend that aid for development is being taken off the agenda of the rich countries' policies. Economic security on a world scale must be part of the reform agenda of all multilateral institutions, from the World Trade Organisation to the United Nations.

The French President's article is reprinted from the Los Angeles Times.

## Millions take a chance on U.S. 'green card' lottery

By Nicole Deshayes  
Agence France Presse

**WASHINGTON** — More than nine million people eager to be legal U.S. residents have entered this year's "green card" lottery, a draw that brings out many unscrupulous "experts" trying to sell advice to would-be immigrants.

The prize in the random lottery is the U.S. residency card — once green, but now pink — a must for immigrants seeking permanent residence and employment in the United States.

From June 1 to June 30, the special programme run by the State Department accepted simple applications from foreign nationals residing illegally in the United States and would-be immigrants living abroad.

It was established in 1990 as part of a stopgap effort to diversify the pool of incoming U.S. immigrants, after the 1970s saw a surge in immigration from Central America, the Caribbean and Southeast Asia.

Of the 55,000 cards up for grabs in the lottery, 24,549 are earmarked for European nationals; 20,200 for African nationals and 10,251 for Asian and South American citizens. From each region, some countries already have substantial immigrant populations in the United States.

There is only one prerequisite for eligible lottery

players: They must have completed their secondary (high-school) level studies or have had work experience in a field requiring at least two years of study.

Applicants simply are asked to jot down on a blank sheet of paper their name, address, date and place of birth, and the names of their spouse and children if applicable. They then send their entry to the State Department with a reply envelope.

Simple as the process is, a flood of immigration lawyers and self-style specialists advertised their services and launched direct-mail campaigns, promising help with entering the lottery for between 10 and 800 dollars.

Mark Wurzel, the chief of staff of the New York City department of consumer affairs, said it was a tragedy such "vultures" were circling.

But the advisory services are anything but illegal, unless the so-called experts make promises they cannot keep. About half-a-dozen New York lawyers have been charged with false advertising and fined, Mr. Wurzel said.

New York city also published a leaflet in nine languages to explain the lottery and alert would-be applicants to possible scams.

"There is no need to hire anyone to assist you in the application process," the text reads. "It is quick, straightforward, easy and

## EU banks dominate world lending — BIS

BASLE, Switzerland (R) — European Union (EU) banks have consolidated their dominant position in international lending at the expense of rivals from North America and Japan, the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said Tuesday.

The Basle-based BIS, a central bank for central bankers, added that EU banks were the biggest lenders in all parts of the world except Asia at the end of last year.

In a report on lending by BIS-area banks to countries outside the area, the BIS said the share of international bank lending held by EU banks has risen to a provisional 45.2 per cent at the end of 1993 from 34.8 per cent eight years earlier.

Germany banks led the EU with \$109.6 billion of claims at the end of 1993 on countries outside the BIS reporting area, which comprises the Group of 10 rich industries countries as well as Austria, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Luxembourg and Spain.

Thirty-seven per cent of German banks' outstanding loans were to eastern Europe, 24 per cent to Latin America, 11.4 per cent to Asia, 6.2 per cent to the Middle East, and 2.5 per cent to Africa.

The share of international lending held by North American banks has fallen to 14.7 per cent from 27.8 per cent at the end of 1985, when the BIS started compiling the statistics.

The BIS said North Amer-

ican banks had reduced their exposure to all groups of debtor countries, particularly Latin America.

"This reassessment of North American banks' international presence was to some extent due to the multiplication of problem loans in the 1980s and the resulting broad deterioration in their credit standing," the BIS said.

"But it was also due to a shift in their lending policy away from the international market and into the buoyant sectors of the domestic economy," it added.

The BIS said the improved creditworthiness of North American banks in the last two years, however, had allowed them to return to the market, with a particularly strong rise in claims on Latin America.

The BIS said "other banks," including those from Japan, saw their share of international lending rise to 46.3 per cent at the end of 1993 from 37.4 per cent at end-1985 but then slip to 40.1 per cent at the end of 1993.

Japanese banks remained the most important single national group with \$11 billion of claims at the end of 1993 on outside-area countries, including \$72.7 billion of claims in Asian nations. But Japanese banks have reduced lending activity since the end of 1991 due to official pressure to deal with doubtful loans, their own concerns about credit quality, and capital requirements, the BIS added.

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Stock prices at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) have lost an average of 25 per cent since the beginning of the year and the trend is likely to continue unless investors see tangible signs of economic returns of the 30-month-old Arab-Israeli peace process, brokers said Tuesday.

Optimism generated by Jordan's recent debt rescheduling accord with the Paris Club and expectations of direct debt relief from the U.S. appeared to have been outweighed by investor concern over the state of Jordanian-Palestinian economic cooperation across the River Jordan.

While the official AFM share price index showed a 14 per cent drop since January, the brokers said that indicator excluded many of the smaller companies whose stocks have steadily declined.

The AFM index closed at 142.1 on Tuesday, down 20 points from the year's opening, and the 1994 record of 168 points in March. Average volume of trading in the past four days remained around JD 400,000 compared with the all-time record of JD 17 million registered in July last year.

"The AFM index only includes major companies and excludes the ups and downs of smaller companies, some of which have lost up to 40 per cent since the beginning of the year," said a seasoned broker. "By and large, a careful scrutiny of all shares

in the market and their performance so far will indicate an average drop of 25 per cent."

Several other brokers and banking officials agreed with the assessment.

Turnover at the AFM for the year 1993 was nearly JD 1 billion, a record for a market of the size.

Not everybody is pessimistic about the decline at the AFM. On the contrary, many banking officials and officials believe that the climbdown in prices was inevitable and they welcome it since they see it as a move towards "realism" after two years of artificial inflation.

The market got a boost in 1991 with the return of tens of thousands of expatriate families from Kuwait with their life savings, part of which went to reviving various economic sectors and to investment in stocks.

hopes attached to economic cooperation with the occupied territories and expected gains from the development of the territories.

"The margin is being shed now and Jordanian stocks are heading towards more realistic prices based on purely internal factors rather than hopes and expectations," added a banking executive, who also preferred anonymity.

"Sure enough, some people are going to find themselves on the losing end, but isn't that the name of the game in the stock market?"

An Egyptian statement that it would be operating a helicopter flight between the Gaza Strip and Cairo as a link between the autonomous territories and the outside world was another sign interpreted by local investors as PLO

apathy in political/economic cooperation with Jordan.

Another factor that contributed to the drop in the AFM was the gradual withdrawal by several Western portfolio firms which opted for better pastures in Asia and Latin America, according to brokers.

"Investor enthusiasm was raised with the prospect of foreign companies coming with as much as \$100 million in capital to the AFM," said a banking official who deals with portfolios in the market. "Subsequently speculators gave an artificial boost to shares, hoping to move in for the kill with foreign operators."

Now that most of the foreign firms have either quit the

(Continued on page 9)

## Dealers: Dollar may go lower unless Fed acts

## U.S. currency struggles to find a floor in Europe

LONDON (R) — The dollar struggled to stabilise on European currency markets on Tuesday after taking further punishment in Tokyo, but dealers expect any pause to be only temporary if governments and central banks still stand aside.

With the markets seemingly free to set their own levels, the dollar hit a new post-war low of 96.95 yen in New York and also slid to 1.5266 marks in Tokyo.

But it came back slightly in European trading to 97.25 yen and 1.5297 marks, mainly due to traders covering short positions taken out earlier. Dealers said volumes were

not heavy, suggesting the U.S. currency is likely to drift gently downwards to test new lows over the next few days.

Most operators are convinced that the Group of Seven (G-7) nations were unable to agree on a remedy for the dollar during their summit meeting in Naples at the weekend, and that President Bill Clinton gave the game away when he suggested economic recovery should not be endangered by interest-rate rises that might help the beleaguered dollar.

The U.S. unit fell heavily in Europe Monday and the dive continued in New York and then Tokyo, until the

dear was arrested in European morning trading.

"There may be a slight retracement. If the dollar can manage 1.5350 (marks), that's as far as we can expect," said a dealer at a German bank in London.

The Bank of Japan intervened repeatedly to keep the dollar above 97 yen in Tokyo, dealers said. But they doubted other central banks would jointly intervene to support the dollar at current levels because the impact would still likely be limited.

The most probable next step, many analysts say, is a half-percentage-point rise in U.S. interest rates that could be justified by the continued strength of the U.S. economy as shown by recent jobs data and perhaps inflation figures due this week.

"In a month, the dollar has fallen nine per cent, which is a big, big move," said Peter Luxton, economic advisor at Barclays Bank in London. "Will it force the Fed to hike rates?"

Dealers believe that the dollar could crash to more record low points unless the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed) raises interest rates, dealers here believe.

Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce Economist Nick Parsons warned: "This is not

the end of the dollar's decline."

Dealers said the currency could fall to a new low point of 1.52 marks later Tuesday when dealers began to trade in New York.

Other dealer's believe a slight correction is in order before the U.S. currency can slide further, towards the key support levels of 1.50 marks and 95.00 yen.

Analysts dismissed fears of central bank intervention, and rumours that the G-7 had agreed a secret plan at the summit to thwart the markets.

"To believe that the G-7 has a secret gunning plan

gives finance ministers much more credit than experience shows they deserve," said Mr. Parsons, citing sterling's abrupt exit from the European Exchange Rate Mechanism in September 1992.

At Chemical Bank, Malcolm Barr said: "The market lost two per cent of its value yesterday, and that on its own should be enough to move the central banks in."

But "this morning's dollar rally was very unconvincing, and the market has legitimate short term reasons to sell the dollar."

(Continued on page 9)

## Survey says Japanese corporate profits to fall 10.2% if dollar stays at 95 yen

TOKYO (AFP) — Major 200 Japanese listed companies project their combined pre-tax profits to plunge 10.2 per cent in the year to next March if the dollar stabilises at 95 yen, according to a newspaper survey published Tuesday.

This would result in the fifth consecutive year-on-year decline in combined corporate profits, the leading business daily Nihon Keizai newspaper, which conducted the survey, said.

The 200 firms, excluding banks, insurance companies and securities houses, expect their combined sales to fall four per cent in the same period, the daily said.

If the dollar is at 100 yen, the survey showed that the firms' combined profits are projected to decline 3.4 per cent and combined sales to fall two per cent year on year, the daily said.

When fiscal 1994 started in April 1, 1994, the 200 firms expected a 0.6 per cent drop in combined pre-tax profits on a 0.4 per cent fall in sales for the fiscal year, it said.

Meanwhile, 1,542 listed companies nationwide, excluding banks, insurers and brokerage houses, had previously expected a 5.7 per cent rise in their combined pre-tax profits, the daily said.

The daily said that processing industry, such as automakers and electronics companies, are hardest-hit by the yen's appreciation.

Hitachi Ltd., the nation's largest electric machinery manufacturer, earlier projected an 11 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to 80 billion yen (\$816 million), which would be the first profit rise in five years if realised, the daily said.

However, at 95 yen to a

dollar, Hitachi's pre-tax profits are likely to fall 16 per cent to around 60 billion yen, it said.

Nissan Motor Co. Ltd., the nation's No. 2 automaker, would face a pre-tax loss of around 20 billion yen if the dollar stays at 95 yen, the daily said.

The world's largest steelmaker Nippon Steel Corp. may face 100 billion yen in actual losses, but is likely to report smaller pre-tax losses by raising revenues from stock sales, it said.

On the other hand, some electric firms such as Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd., Sharp Corp. and Kyocera Corp. are likely to secure increases in pretax profits even if the dollar stands at 95 yen, the daily said, noting their cost-cutting efforts and competitive products.

BRUSSELS (AFP) — Finance ministers of the European Union (EU) have confirmed the speed and direction of policy towards the creation of economic and monetary union by the end of the century.

The EU commission must not diminish the importance of criteria concerning deficits, he said.

The centrepiece of monetary union is the creation of a single currency, and German Finance Minister Theo Waigel stressed that ministers had to be rigorous in deciding which members had public deficits exceeding the criteria for economic convergence.

Germany holds the presidency of the council of ministers and the meeting formally adopted the main lines of economic policy for 1994-95 which had been accepted by the leaders of the 12 EU countries at a summit meeting in Corfu at the end of June.

The policy principles underline the need for a re-

duction of public deficits, a moderation of pay increases, and a reversal of the trend for long-term interest rates to rise.

The EU commission must not diminish the importance of criteria concerning deficits, he said.

Deregulation, particularly of the labour market, and the duty of employees and employers to increase the flexibility of pay arrangements, were also conditions for growth and an improvement in the competitive position of the EU economy, Mr. Waigel said.

Commission officials had initially resisted that this requirement might be relaxed for some countries, given the efforts which they were making to reduce their deficits.

Mr. Waigel, who presented Germany's financial priorities for the council during the next six months, said that the recession was over and that the task now was to ensure there was stable economic growth.

"Our policy to reduce un-

employment must be centred on the strength of national and community budgets, on low interest rates and on an increase in the confidence of consumers and investors," he said.

The Maastricht treaty on monetary and political union laid down that public deficits could amount to no more than three per cent of gross domestic product (GDP).

Commission officials had initially resisted that this requirement might be relaxed for some countries, given the efforts which they were making to reduce their deficits.

Finance ministers from Austria, Finland, Norway and Sweden, which are due to join the union, attended the meeting.

Norwegian Finance Minister Sigbjorn Johnsen, commenting on a so-called white paper on growth, competitiveness and employment which has been adopted by the 12 members.

project you have in mind. Show that you are sincere.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Know what your personal aims are and go after them in a positive manner. Sidestep one who is trying to make trouble for you at this time.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) You have creative ideas which need proper arranging before putting them in operation. Personal goals can be easily attained now.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Make necessary changes in the home that will give you added comfort. Be sure business affairs are running smoothly for you.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) You can benefit greatly by concerted action in your line of endeavour at this time. Avoid unnecessary expenditure of money.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) You know how best to add to present abundance, so stop wasting valuable time. Express happiness with loved one tonight.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) A good time to go after that goal which is so important to you. Listen to complaints of family members instead of airing your own views.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Contact allies who can give you the support you need for an important

one tonight.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Make any changes necessary to improve the quality of your work and reap the benefits you are entitled to. Show that you have ability.

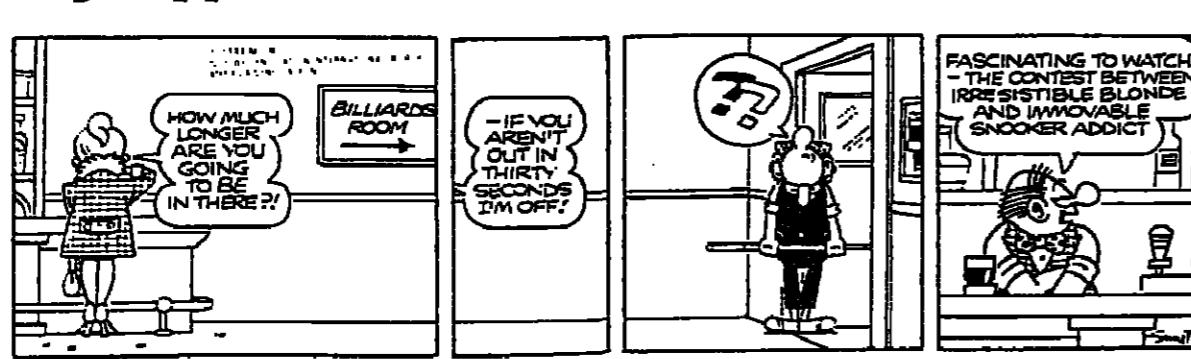
**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Making as many allies as you can is wise at this time. Much care in motion must be exercised now to avoid possible accidents.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) Make any changes necessary to improve the quality of your work and reap the benefits you are entitled to. Show that you have ability.

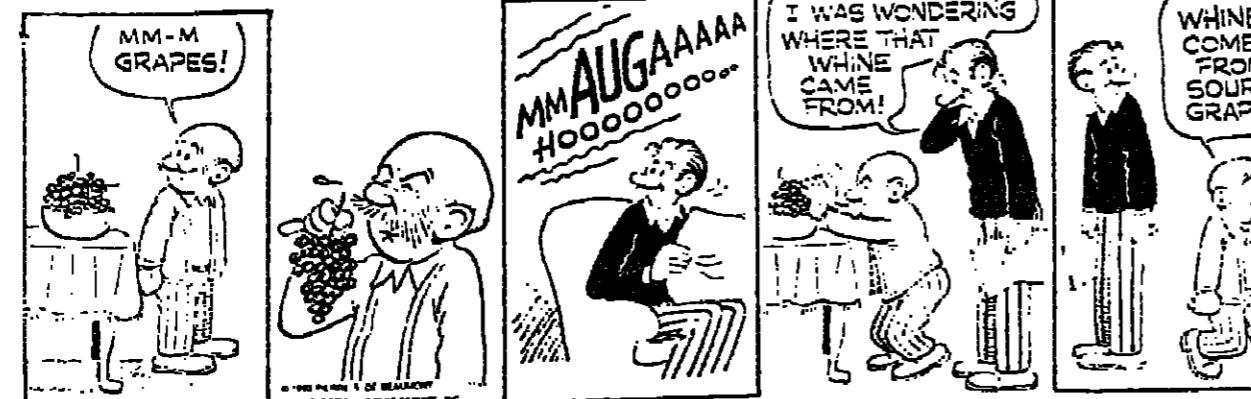
## Peanuts



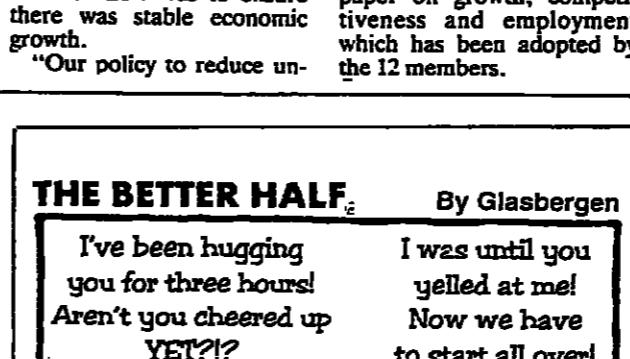
## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n'Jeff



## THE BETTER HALF



## JUMBLE

THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME  
by Horst Arnold and Mike Argirion</p

## Financial Markets in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets		Jordan Times			
Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close			
Sterling Pound	1.5720	1.5725			
Deutsche Mark	1.5280	1.5266			
Swiss Franc	1.2890	1.2887			
French Franc	5.2525	5.2545**			
Japanese Yen	97.73	97.07			
European Currency Unit	1.2495	1.2471**			
USD Per STG					
European Opened at 8:00 a.m. GMT					
Eurocurrency Interest Rates Date: 12/7/1994					
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS		
U.S. Dollar	4.57	4.66	5.12		
Sterling Pound	4.81	5.00	5.31		
Deutsche Mark	4.66	4.68	4.68		
Swiss Franc	3.67	4.00	4.12		
French Franc	5.56	5.56	5.68		
Japanese Yen	1.81	1.93	1.93		
European Currency Unit	5.81	5.87	6.00		
Interest bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent					
Precious Metals Date: 12/7/1994					
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	385.95	7.20	Silver	5.35	0.117
24 Karat					

Dutch Guilder	Bid	Offer
Swedish Krona	0.4002	0.4022
Italian Lira	0.0451	0.0453
Belgian Franc	4.0000	4.0000

Per 100 Date: 12/7/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.6040	1.6180
Lebanese Lira	0.039845	0.041580
Saudi Riyal	0.1826	0.1835
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.5200	2.5400
Qatari Riyal	0.1862	0.1872
Egyptian Pound	0.2050	0.2300
Omani Rial	1.7630	1.7760
UAE Dirham	0.1862	0.1872
Greek Drachma	0.2635	0.3135
Cypriot Pound	1.3520	1.4450

Per 100 Date: 12/7/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	4.57	4.66
Sterling Pound	4.81	5.00
Deutsche Mark	4.66	4.68
Swiss Franc	3.67	4.00
French Franc	5.56	5.68
Japanese Yen	1.81	1.93
European Currency Unit	5.81	5.87

Per 100 Date: 12/7/1994

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES	
LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.	
U.S. \$1.00 costs	
Canadian dollar	
Deutschmarks	
Dutch guilders	
Swiss francs	
Belgian francs	
French francs	
Italian lire	
Japanese yen	
Swedish kronas	
Norwegian kronas	
Danish kronas	
One sterling	
One ounce of gold	

Per 100 Date: 12/7/1994

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 12/7/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6860	0.6880
Sterling Pound	1.8763	1.8837
Deutsche Mark	0.4490	0.4512
Swiss Franc	0.5317	0.5344
French Franc	0.1307	0.1314
Japanese Yen	0.7039	0.7074

## AFM share prices drop

(Continued from page 8)

market or are keeping their involvement to a bare minimum, investors have no choice but to bring down the prices, noted the banking official. No definite figures are available on how much actual capital was brought in by the foreign firms and how much remained on the trading floor.

Nearly 115 companies are listed at the AFM with a total market value equity that stood at JD 3.5 billion in January.

The AFM gained prominence in the mid-80s with the infusion of expatriate capital from the Gulf. In the latter half of the decade, the market was deflated as a result of the sharp drop in expatriate remittances and the economic crisis that hit the kingdom.

This means, the banker explained, post-dated cheques and dealings based on exchange of shares are not allowed and each transaction has to be dealt with as an individual deal supported by actual transfer of funds. "True, this limits the growth and scope of the market, but then who wants growth and scope without the necessary liquidity and cash to support it?"

One of the key factors influencing investors negatively is the state of limbo in finalising an accord of modalities of implementing an economic cooperation agreement signed in January between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The Jan. 7 agreement gave Jordan a strong say in the monetary and financial affairs of the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and boosted the stock of Jordanian companies seen poised to gain from such cooperation.

But a subsequent Israeli-PLO economic accord signed in April was seen to have tied down the Palestinian options of dealing with Jordan and dampened the enthusiasm, and the change of mood is mainly reflected in the stock market, analysts say.

Adding fuel to the concern of investors was what they saw as a clear message from the PLO, which has not signed a document drafted in May outlining the modalities of the Jan. agreement, when Yasser Arafat opted to enter

autonomous Gaza Strip from Egypt rather than Jericho through Jordan.

The number of shares that changed hands at the AFM since the beginning of the year dropped to 95.7 million compared with 158.94 million during the same period last year.

"It is a period of stagnation in the market," said a broker. "Investors are highly sceptical and are awaiting concrete signs of money coming to Jordan as part of the peace process and of Jordanian firms gaining from the economic development of the Palestinians with the hundreds of millions of dollars pledged by the donors."

If the status quo continues, brokers warned, Jordanian stocks are destined for a further climbdown. "There has not been real panic selling until now," said another broker. "But if the stagnation continues and shares prices continue to slip, however lightly, there will be dumping in the market."

One safety valve in the market is five per cent ceiling for daily fluctuation of individual share prices, but this could serve only to avoid overnight shocks and could do little to stop the gradual slide, noted the brokers, who cannot be identified by name under standing AFM guidelines.

Analysts and bankers refused to describe the drop at the AFM as a crash.

"It is almost impossible to have a 'crash' at the AFM like what happened in Kuwait," said a banker referring to the Al Manakh collapse in the mid-80s in the emirate. "The AFM does not allow forward trading and every transaction has to be concluded with cash transfers on a regular basis."

## Dollar may go lower

(Continued from page 8)

The massive United States trade deficit, particularly with Japan, and a reluctance on the part of the U.S. Federal Reserve to neutralise inflationary pressure emerging in a robust economy are hitting the currency, he said.

Lukewarm statements by U.S. President Bill Clinton have also indicated to the markets that the U.S. administration is indulging in a policy of "benign neglect" towards the dollar.

The yield on the 30-year U.S. Treasury bond meanwhile rose again on Tuesday to 7.74 per cent, the highest level for more than a year and a half.

But dealers said that if U.S. June producer price data, to be published Wednesday showed any hints of inflationary pressures, the dollar would be sold sharply again and the U.S. Federal Reserve could be forced to raise interest rates.

Mr. Parsons said he believed that a rise in U.S. interest rates were "imminent" and might emerge after the publication of U.S. inflation figures.

He said the Fed would raise rates to counter internal inflationary pressures, rather than to support the dollar: "Economic strength rather than dollar weakness."

He said the move would push the dollar higher and "the last person to be short of dollars will find it very expensive."

With European currencies strengthening by the day with a likely dampening effect on exports to the huge U.S. economy, stock markets saw little cause for cheer and there was plenty of red on price screens Tuesday.

The German DAX-30 retreated nearly 15 points by 1000 GMT while London and Paris also showed double-digit declines.

German shares were restrained by concern over the dollar's relentless slide and by speculation that the recently in government bonds will peter out.

In Tokyo the Nikkei average ended off 72.61 points or 0.35 per cent at 20,404.48, with the dollar and lingering worries about developments on the Korean peninsula caping prices.

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## Underdogs Bulgaria ready to topple Italy

EAST RUTHERFORD (R)

Giantkillers Bulgaria, who buried title-holders Germany Sunday, aim to stay former champions Italy Wednesday and take their exhilarating World Cup challenge all the way to the final.

If Bulgaria, 5-1 outsiders after the draw for the finals last December, can reproduce the inspiration which gave them a 2-1 quarterfinal win over the Germans they have every chance against Roberto Baggio's Italy.

Baggio rescued Italy with last-gasp goals against Nigeria in the second round and Spain in the quarterfinals when they had appeared to be heading for World Cup eclipse but escaped instead with a pair of 2-1 victories.

Italy, who lost their opening game against Ireland, have not shown the overwhelming form to match their proud traditions — much like the Germans who saw a 1-0 lead overturned by two masterly strikes by Hristo Stoichkov and Yordan Lechkov.

Stoichkov and Lechkov, notably abetted by attacking midfielder Krasimir Balakov, proved deadly to Germany and could give the Italian defence an equally torrid time, just as Spain did in the second half Saturday.

With the scalps of triple world champions Germany already on their belts, the lively Bulgarians are ready for further upsets in the Giants Stadium against the nation which won the trophy in 1934, 1938, 1962.

"Italy are a tricky team and I'm expecting a very tough match," Bulgarian goalkeeper Borislav Mihailov said, but added: "I think we have a real chance against Italy. They're not as good a team as

Germany."

Balakov, by contrast, expects a harder time against Italy, a team drawing heavily on the talents of European Cup winners AC Milan from tough Paolo Maldini and Alessandro Costacurta in the heart of defence to the midfield skills of Roberto Donadoni and Daniele Massaro.

But the Baggios of Juventus — European footballers of the year Roberto and non-nonsense midfielder Dino — may well be the men to make the difference.

Roberto equalised against Nigeria in the 89th minute and notched the winning penalty in extra-time and repeated the last-ditch heroics against Spain with the winning strike in the 88th minute.

Unrelated namesake Dino scored the opener against Spain and also produced the goal in the 1-0 win over Norway, Italy's only victory in the first round.

Italy could recall right back Roberto Masi, who has recovered from an ankle injury, and restore Giuseppe Signori — a substitute against Spain and provider for Roberto Baggio's decisive goal — to the starting line-up on the left of midfield.

Team chief Arrigo Sacchi has warned his players to beware of complacency. "This is a World Cup in which as soon as you think you've won the match you end up losing it," he said.

"Bulgaria have excellent players with good technique and are strong physically."

Bulgaria, who started as inauspiciously as Italy with a 3-0 hiding from Nigeria, had never won a match in the World Cup finals until this tournament but have now collected victories over



Today's matches  
Bulgaria vs. Italy at East Rutherford, N.J., at 23:05 Amman time.  
Brazil vs. Sweden at Pasadena, Calif., at 02:35 (Thursday) Amman time.

Greece, former champions Argentina, Mexico and Germany.

Stoichkov scored in all those wins, including two penalties against Greece and the superb free-kick which precipitated Germany's downfall, and looks forward to more heroics against Italy.

"We've got nothing to lose and I think we're going to achieve as great a success as we did today," he said after the upset over Germany.

Lechkov, who converted the spot-kick which decided the second-round penalty shoot-out with Mexico and headed the winner against Germany, is happy Bulgaria will be the underdogs against Italy, 13-8 second favourites behind Brazil.

"We are the outsiders and we like being the outsiders," he said.

German captain Lothar Matthaeus fancies their chances. "The dangerous thing for Italy is that Bulgaria are not scared of anyone. They have nothing to lose," he said.



Italy's captain Roberto Baggio kicks on a penalty and scores his 2-1 for Italy on extra time during their second round World Cup match with Nigeria at Foxboro stadium (AFP photo)

Probable teams:  
Bulgaria — 1-Borislav Mihailov, 2-Gianluca Pagliuca, 3-Roberto Masi, 4-Alessandro Costacurta, 5-Paolo Maldini, 6-Antonio Bernarivo, 7-Roberto Donadoni, 11-Demetrio Albertini, 13-Dino Baggio, 20-Giuseppe Signori, 10-Roberto Baggio, 19-Daniele Massaro.  
Referee: Joel Qinou (France).

## Romania cursed by penalty shootout

CONSTANTA, Romania (AP) — Romanians put on a brave face Monday, blaming the "curse of the penalty" for their team's World Cup loss to Sweden.

In the runup to the semifinals, Bulgaria was lightly regarded, routing the worst of the 24 cup teams, Greece, after an opening loss to Nigeria. The 4-0 win was Bulgaria's first ever in the World Cup so there was no reason to consider Bulgaria a major language need.

"We pretty much figured they wouldn't be here," said Alison Leigh Hofflich, head of World Cup language ser-

vices for Giants Stadium. "So we didn't have any Bulgarian interpreters. And we didn't think we'd need any."

In the runup to the semifinals, Bulgaria was lightly regarded, routing the worst of the 24 cup teams, Greece, after an opening loss to Nigeria. The 4-0 win was Bulgaria's first ever in the World Cup so there was no reason to consider Bulgaria a major language need.

"Young fans cheered "Romania, Romania," even after the team lost 5-4 in a sudden-death penalty shootout in the quarterfinals. By mid-Monday, the square was full of middle-aged men gloomily perusing newspapers spelling the defeat in print.

"We lost on the lottery of penalties," said the local newspaper Telegraf, which has kept the frontpage open for the match to finish at about 1:30 a.m.

Romania also lost in a penalty shootout to Ireland at the 1990 World Cup in Italy.

All hopes had been pinned on Hagi, the "Maradona of the Carpathians" and Constanta's most famous son.

But neither hope nor talent was enough, this time.

"We should have won, but we didn't have the luck," said an unidentified Hagi family member by telephone.

Thousands of fans all around the country mourned the defeat but said the loss was less tangible as it was on penalties.

"The World Cup games played at Giants Stadium were of historic proportion and the fans made each match a truly exciting event," said Alan Rothenberg, chairman of the World Cup organising committee.

## Organisers to sell grass

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey (R) — The grass soccer pitch at Giants Stadium will be dug up and sold to the public after Wednesday's World Cup semifinal between Italy and Bulgaria.

Venue director Charlie Stillman said Monday the turf, specially laid for the World Cup at a cost of one million dollars, would go on sale Thursday for between \$10 and \$20 per square foot (between \$110 and \$220 per square metre), depending on how much sod was involved.

"It's a dream come true. We're going to enjoy ourselves," added Bjorklund, who has had to have a pain-killing injection for a groin strain for the last three games.

Brolin, who scored the first

tackles on their second goal, the ball just kept getting deflected and (Florin) Radu didn't waste the chance. We must make out tackles count against Romario and Bebeto," he said.

But he was not overawed by Sweden's first World Cup semifinal since 1958 when they reached the final against Brazil at Stockholm.

"It's a dream come true. We're going to enjoy ourselves," added Bjorklund, who has had to have a pain-killing injection for a groin strain for the last three games.

"So far only the Dutch have tried three forwards against Brazil. They scored twice but lost in three. So we

## World Cup fever outrages purists in Iran

TEHRAN (R) — Iran is gripped by World Cup fever. Up to half the population re-

portedly watch the games which are broadcast live — or almost live — for the first time since 1979 Islamic revolution.

Purists concerned about "revolutionary Islamic values" are outraged about the coverage and about the partial lifting of a ban on women going to soccer stadiums announced this week.

State television has been showing every game of the World Cup live — except for

a delay of a few seconds to allow editors to cut out crowd scenes showing women fans in clothes deemed inappropriate. The gap is filled by doctored crowd shots from previous shahri.

Hamshahri newspaper praised the move as a clever solution which had blocked efforts to keep live broadcasts off Iranian television.

But Jomhuri Eslami, alone among newspapers to condemn the World Cup frenzy, was not impressed.

It said the television had become "a mirror of America" and a tool publicising the country Iran calls its biggest enemy.

Hamshahri counters that the television is rendering great service by winning back audiences from western satellite television programmes.

Some of the games have been watched by an unprecedented 30 million Iranians, half the population of a country whose team failed to qualify for the finals, it said.

The Iranian Soccer Federation has announced that it will allow women to watch Iranian, Bahraini, Indian and Indonesian youth teams compete in an Asian championship qualifying group in Tehran from next Monday, the magazine Gozareh Hafteh says in its current issue.

It welcomed the decision as "constructive and encouraging."

But Jomhuri Eslami asked: "Considering the religious issues which we all abide by, what argument can justify the presence of young girls in stadiums where 15-year-old youths appear in sports uniforms?"

Resalat newspaper said "occasional negative and immoral acts such as insulting the referee or the players and shouting obscene chants" dogged Iranian soccer games, making them inappropriate for a family outing.

If women start flooding stadiums, many moral and Islamic values will be disregarded in the future," it said.

## Goal happy Swedish team strike fear into Brazil

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — Sweden's amazing ability to score goals has turned the tables on Brazilian coach Charles Alberto Parreira as he prepares for their semifinal confrontation Wednesday.

Normally Parreira can sit back and let the opposition worry about how to stop Romario and Bebeto but now it is his time to be concerned.

Sweden's 11 goals is one more than Brazil have so far managed and Parreira has singled out Tomas Brolin as the danger man in Wednesday's semifinal.

The only error we made when we played Sweden to a 1-1 draw in Detroit earlier on was giving Brolin too much room to send Kennet Andersson away for their goal," Parreira said Monday. "We don't intend to make the same mistake again."

Bordeaux-based defender Marcio Santos was blamed for letting Brolin escape to set up Andersson's goal.

"But it's not necessarily going to be Aldair who marks me," Brolin said. "The Brazilians play a zonal defence and it's Mauro Silva, Dunga and Mazinho who put up the first defensive barrier. Space and time will be at a minimum," he said.

Brolin said it was a relief to score from open play against Romania. His other goal in the tournament was from a penalty against Russia.

"No matter how well you might be playing a scorer needs goals to maintain confidence. You get so few chances in a World Cup," he said.

However he doesn't expect Sweden to use the same free-kick combination again.

"It's the sort of trick you can only use once," he said. "The Brazilians will have watched it on video."

Sweden captain Jonas Thern said he definitely would play.

"I'm not going through that again," vowed the 27-year-old midfielder who had been sidelined because of injury.

"The knee will be okay. There was just no point starting a match I couldn't finish," added Thern on Monday.

Stefan Schwarz may not have Thern's flair but his retriever-like qualities could have been decisive. His sending-off brought a one-game suspension.

Thern said that with Martin Dahlin, Tomas Brolin and Kennet Andersson in attack they had a chance of creating space in the Brazilian defence.

"It's a dream come true. We're going to enjoy ourselves," added Bjorklund, who has had to have a pain-killing injection for a groin strain for the last three games.

Brolin, who scored the first

goal in Sunday's quarterfinal against Romania, said he was ready for any special Brazil treatment.

The Brazilian defenders and midfielders are very quick to pick up the man in possession. They are very hard. I don't say they're dirty but they are really motivated," he said.

Aldair, called up on the eve of the tournament as a late replacement for the sick Carlos Mozer, has turned into a key player in the Brazilian defence. And as he plays for Roma in the Italian league he knows all about Brolin who plays for Parma.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Costa heads for Italy

LISBON (AFP) — Benefica player Rui Costa signed for newly-promoted Italian side Fiorentina here Monday for £1 million on a three-year deal. The Portuguese international 22-year-old is expected to earn \$800,000 a year.

### Sevilla demands \$1.5m from Maradona

SEVILLE, Spain (AFP) — Sevilla is demanding \$1.5 million compensation from disgraced Argentinian World Cup star Diego Maradona, the club revealed Monday. Sevilla, which sacked the player June 30 last year for failing to fulfil his contract, made the claim as part of a legal battle with Maradona. The player, banned from the World Cup for failing a drugs test, is in turn claiming his contract should be fully paid up by the club.

### Million fans flock to tennis

PARIS (AFP) — Over one million tennis fans have flocked to 23 tour tennis events during the past six months, the ATP revealed Monday. The figure, 1,048,581, was 4.8 percent up on last year. The biggest increase came at the grasscourt event at Halle in Germany, a warm-up tournament before Wimbledon, where 130,000 spectators attended compared to 82,000 in 1993.

### Durand makes it a French first

CAHORS, France (AFP) — French double champion Jacky Durand headed a 150km escape to win the tenth stage of the Tour de France here Tuesday between Bergerac and Cahors. The 27-year-old Durand, who finished a lowly 121st in last year's race, notched France's first success in this year's race by joining the early breakaway after just 10km of the 160.5km run. He then outpaced his three co-conspirators 9km from the finish, leaving Italian Marco Serpellini to take second, 55 seconds adrift, with Australian Stephen Hodge in third. Italy's Gianluca Bartolani, who won the sixth stage, finished fourth despite breaking a spoke in the final kilometres and moved up into third overall. The pack, including race leader Miguel Indurain and main rival Tony Rominger, finished around two minutes behind the leader. Durand, who retained his French championship this year, said: "I decided to attack when Bartolani had his problem. He did not want to stop but his team boss ordered him to, which gave me my chance. He was the one I feared. This meant more to me than my French titles. Durand's only other major career success was the Tour of Flanders in 1992.

### Leeds line up Czech Skuhravy

LONDON (AFP) — Leeds United look set to sign Czech international striker Tomas Skuhravy from Genoa for a club record of £3 million. United managing director Bill Fotherby said on Wednesday: "There is some way to go yet, but we are hopeful of reaching agreement by tomorrow." The fee would beat Leeds' current record of £2.7 million, which they paid Sheffield United last summer for striker Brian Deane, who has so far failed to make an impact at Elland Road.

### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANIAH NIRSHI

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### ONE SUIT'S THE PROBLEM

Both vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**

♦ A 10 6 4

♦ A K

♦ Q 9 5

♦ Q J 4

♦ 8 7 6

WEST

♦ 9 8

9 8 6 4 3 2

♦ Q J 5

A 8 6

♦ 8 3 2

♦ A 10 9 6

SOUTH

♦ K Q 7 5 3

♦ 10 7

♦ K 7 2

♦ K 7 5

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♦ Pass 2 NT Pass

4 ♦ Pass Pass

Opening lead: ♦ K of C

The fascination of bridge is that even seemingly simple situations have myriad facets. The diamond suit is the key to this hand.

By partnership agreement

Nord's jump to two no trump was a forcing raise in spades. South's else-out bid of four spades showed a doubleton in hearts and a singleton and no interest in spades.

West led a heart. Declarer won in dummy, drew trumps in two rounds and forced out the ace of clubs. After winning the heart return, declarer cashed the remaining clubs and the

hand was at the crossroads.

Obviously, declarer will succeed by holding the diamond losers to two. What's the best way to accomplish that?

If you lead a diamond from the closed hand, you have two chances to win. Assume West plays low and you elect either the nine or the jack. Suppose whichever card you play is held by the king in the East hand. East must return a diamond and you again have a guess, with a 50 percent chance of getting it right.

You do better if you arrange to lead a low diamond toward your hand. Your first choice is to have the last two diamonds and ruff by following low. You can then enter the seven, which West can win cheaply, but the defender is trapped in an endplay.

Should East play the eight diamonds you go up with the king, you lead low if you have the jack. If you lead to the ace and West returns a diamond, you are still safe if you guess which card to play from dummy. That gives you three chances instead of two, a 50 percent improvement in your odds. The cards lie, East cannot force the king without setting up a trick for the combined J 9.

## Football by the numbers

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — Once upon a time, football was all about scoring goals. Now in football, there are lies, damn lies and statistics.

Maybe it is because the World Cup is in the United States, where just following a baseball team requires the numerical savvy of a nuclear scientist.

Certainly, popular wisdom says it was the statistical dependency of the American sports fan that prompted the flood of numbers noting such minutiae as left-leg or right-leg shots on goal, blocked shots, shots from inside or outside the penalty area, fouls made, fouls suffered, shots blocked and the increasingly popular assist.

"We decided the better solution is to offer everything, than have someone say they did not have something they wanted," said Brano Rokvic, the European who developed the programme that records the data.

Rokvic is a veteran of sports number crunching, having worked on the Olympics results service in Sarajevo, Calgary, Los Angeles and Barcelona.

He says the scope of the statistics offered at USA 94

exceeds those at Italian 90. "FIFA had some statistics in Italy, but this is the first time we've had real statistics for the World Cup," he said.

Compared to data gathering for the 1984 Olympic football tournament, Rokvic said, the system here is "science fiction."

Many football purists agree, and they do not mean it as a compliment.

Rokvic has heard the criticism, and he admits that the system is not perfect, but he believes the statistics can be useful tool for analysing a player's performance or a match.

As with any such system, the key is accurate data entry.

Each match is worked by a team of five, two "spotters" who keep an eagle eye out for the left-leg and right-leg shots and such, two statisticians who log the data on forms for comparison later, and one person to enter data directly into the computer to produce a match statistics sheet as soon as the final whistle blows.

They start before the match, entering the teams, the officials and the weather.

## Jazireh pull out of the Kingdom's women's basketball championship

By Aleen Bannayan  
Special to the Jordan Times

and Al Faisali are in Group 1. While runners up Al Qadisiyah, Al Hussein, Al Jazireh, Al Karmel, Shabab Al Hussein, and Al Jeel are in Group 2. The top teams of each group will face off for the trophy.

Meanwhile, Jordan Cup and league champions Al Faisali will meet cup runners up Al Ramtha in the charity match — the Cup Winner's Cup — in the first week of August.

The first division, set to begin Aug. 18, groups champions Al Faisali, runners up Al Wihdat, Al Hussein, Al Qadisiyah, Al Ahli, Al Arabi, Al Ramtha, Al Jazireh and newcomers Al Karmel, Shabab Al Hussein, Al Jeel, and Kufraoum.

Al Fuhais, Sahab, Al Baaqaa and Yarmouk Amman were relegated upon the completion of the 1993 championships.

However it seems that their preparations were not up to par as it was recently reported that the JSF had not secured the minimum amenities to make their training camp and preparations a success.

After officials complained that the Aqaba Municipal Stadium was not suited for play and that the team did not even have proper accommodation, His Royal Highness Prince Abdul Ben Al Hussein met with Minister of Youth Fawaz Abul Ghannam and arranged for proper accommodation and facilities to be provided for the team.

Coach Ahmad Abu Sheikha asserted that the team was not expected to compete for an advanced standing, but rather gain much-needed experience from such a regional tournament.

The Jordanian team will play Oman July 15, Qatar July 17, and the Maldives July 19.

Only the top team of the group will qualify to the final round which will be held in Indonesia in September.

Meanwhile, on the local scene, the JSF last week launched the 1994 soccer season with the second, third and fourth division championships while the Federation Shield has been set for Aug. 7 when Al Wihdat will meet Kufraoum.

The competing first division teams have been divided into two groups: Titleholders Al Ramtha, Al Wihdat, Kufraoum, Al Arabi, Al Ahli

July 17 although they had taken into consideration Al Orthodoxi's request to end both rounds of the tournament by the set date.

Apparently two of Al Orthodoxi's players would not be able to join the team if the tournament were postponed, while one of Al Jazireh's players would be able to join the team in that case.

Officials however ridiculed Al Jazireh for opting to pull out rather than play the match and ask for a postponement later on.

However, Al Jazireh officials assert that they had requested the JBF by a written letter dated July 2 to postpone the final until July 20 and move the game to a different court so that both teams would enjoy the home court advantage in the final matches of each round.

However, it seems that the JBF only discussed the matter in their July 11 meeting and informed Al Jazireh of their willingness to make changes on the date and venue of the final match as long as Al Orthodoxi accepted the change.

We told them we would hold the final match at the Sports Palace, and even change the date to the 20th if Al Orthodoxi accepted too," JBF president Awwad Hadid Tuesday told the Jordan Times.

Insiders told the Jordan Times that the "prevailing circumstances" referred to the JBF's off-hand approach and unwillingness to accept Al Jazireh's request to postpone the final match set for

July 17 is a shame that Al Jazireh chose to deal with the matter in an unsportmanlike manner," Haddad said. "I'm very disappointed, and I think having the matches now would have better prepared them for their international tournament for which we have extended our helping hand," he added.

The titleholders will be hosting top four regional teams in Al Jazireh's women's international tournament July 23-29 when they will face Lebanese champions Homenmen, Syria's runners-up Al Jala' Kefalovryos of Cyprus and a select team from the occupation territories.

The JBF and its newly formed women's committee had hoped that this year's women's championship would group the biggest ever number of teams providing valid chance to regroup the women's national team which last completed in 1983 when women's competitions were put on hold for six years.

Seven teams initially registered to play this season. However, former competitors Al Ahli and Homenmen declined to play, while newcomers Al Watani and Al Husun pulled out before the announcement of the schedule.

During the past two matches of the competition, the third competing team — Abu

Nusair — suffered one crushing defeat after another and both Al Jazireh and Al Orthodoxi demonstrated that they were determined and set to be crowned champions.

Al Orthodoxi crushed Abu Nusair 168-15 — possibly the highest score recorded in the country's women's championship — giving a clear signal to the other camp that they mean business and are ready to take back the title they got used to keeping so often.

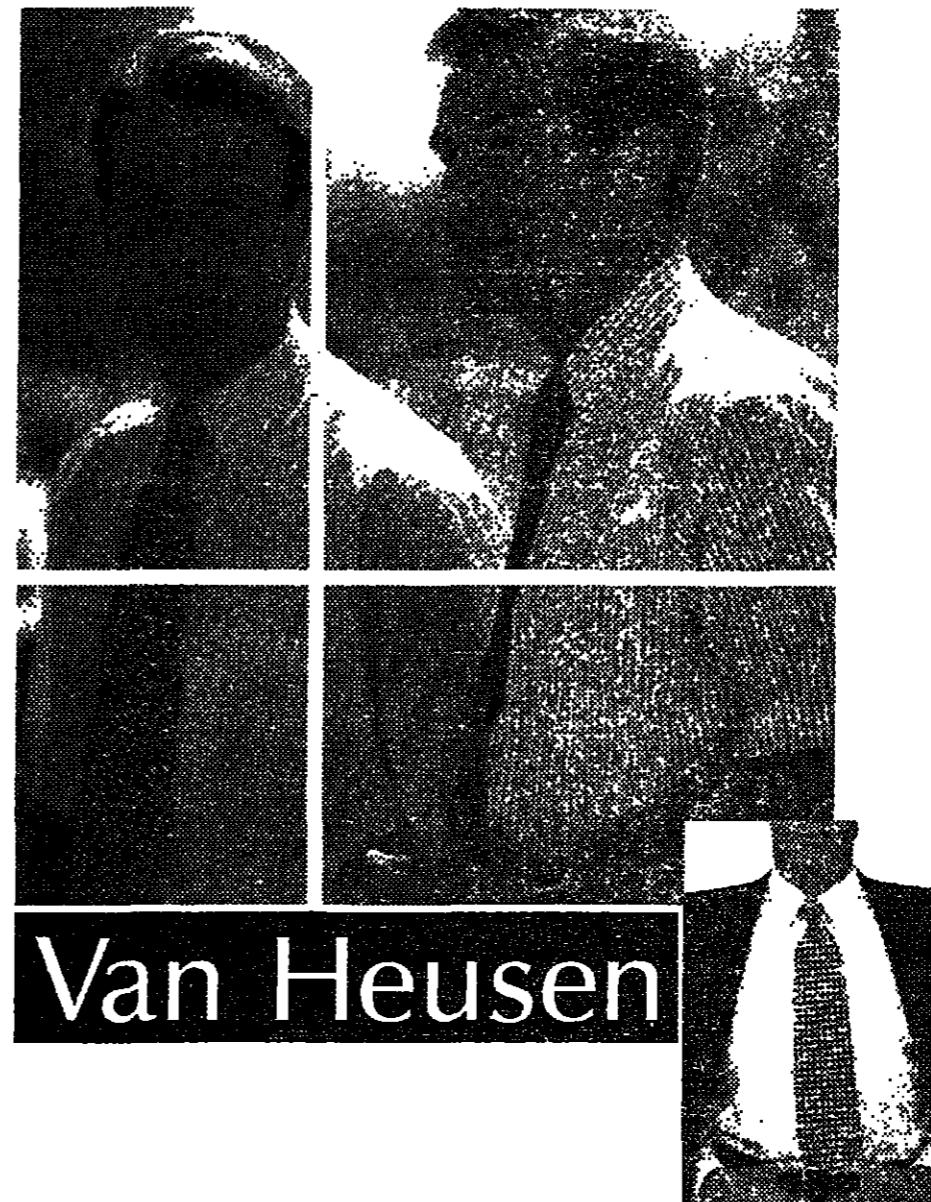
Meanwhile Al Jazireh had scored a smaller 93-17 win over Abu Nusair — a team lacking basic skills and experience but admirably having the will to compete.

Al Orthodoxi only lost the title to Al Jazireh last year. Though missing the efforts of team captain Lara Masi Al Nabat this season, Shireen Abu Khader is back on the team together with Jihan Abdou Noor, Carol Seikaly, Dima and Ghadah Qandah.

Women's basketball began its latest comeback in the 1989-90 season when three teams, Al Orthodoxi, Al Ahli, and Homenmen competed in the championship which was won by Al Orthodoxi.

In 1991, Al Jazireh joined

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## Ashrawi demands respect for the rule of the law

RAFAH (AP) — A Palestinian human rights advocate Tuesday toured the jail where a Gaza man was beaten to death by Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) police interrogators and said she would take up the case with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

"I want to ask Chairman Arafat to respect the sovereignty of the law," activist Hanan Ashrawi, a former spokeswoman for Mr. Arafat, said after a visit to the Gaza City jail where Farid Al Jarbua, 28, died last week.

Dr. Ashrawi, head of the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights, was expected to meet Mr. Arafat later Tuesday.

The self-rule authority itself first announced Mr. Jarbua's death, promising a complete investigation, and the three officers believed responsible have been arrested.

The death nonetheless raised fears about the methods of the new PLO police. Palestinians have been anxious to avoid the pattern of human rights abuses that they fought under Israeli occupation.

During the seven-year Palestinian uprising against

Israeli rule, 20 Palestinians died in Israeli custody, including nine as a result of violent interrogation, according to the Israeli human rights group Betsleem.

General Prosecutor Khaled Al Qudra said Al Jarbua was arrested June 25. He was suspected of being an informant for Israel and of trying to recruit Palestinians to work for him after the agreement on self-rule in the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho went into effect in May.

Mr. Qudra admitted that Jarbua died of violence under interrogation.

"Out of our respect for human rights, we have not tried to hide the facts or cover up for the suspected perpetrators. What happened is a lesson for all of us and we will make sure it will never happen again," he said.

The human rights organisation, the Gaza centre for Rights and Law, denounced the killing in a report, calling it a great shock.

Palestinian prisoners suffered at the hands of the Israeli security service... under occupation. We will not accept the continuation of this style of detention and interrogation by the security officers of the Palestinian au-

thority," said the report.

The New York-based Human Rights Watch-Middle East urged Palestinian Justice Minister Freib Abu Melein in a letter to "send clear signals that violations of human rights will not be tolerated."

The collaboration issue has caused extensive bloodshed within the Palestinian community, with over 800 people accused of working as informants killed since the uprising began in December 1987.

Human rights groups said the accusation was often used to cover personal or clan feuds and vice crimes.

Still Mr. Abu Melein has accused the Israelis of continuing to run informers in the autonomous areas in violation of the peace accord.

Mr. Qudra said only those collaborators who remain active after self-rule will be prosecuted. "Spying is a contravention of the peace agreement," he said.

Mr. Jarbua was among 10 others detained in Rafah refugee camp in the southern Gaza Strip, including two women, Nawal Nims, 35, and her seven months pregnant sister-in-law, Fairouz, 24.

Mr. Jarbua's family said the brutality started with his arrest.

## Abu Alaa in Amman on his way to Jericho

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

A M M A N — A h m a d Couria, the finance minister in the Palestine National Authority (PNA) in autonomous Gaza and Jericho, arrived in Jordan on Tuesday on his way to assume office in Jericho. Palestinian sources said.

Reports from Cairo said Mr. Couria, better known as Abu Alaa, had not scheduled any formal discussion with Jordanian officials on an economic cooperation agreement the two sides signed in January or the draft of an accord on modalities of the Jan. 7 document.

However, he would be meeting with Jordanian officials informally, said the reports, confirmed by Palestinian sources. No Jordanian official was immediately available for comment.

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and diplomatic sources here said Abu Alaa would seek to assure Jordan that the PLO was committed to the Jan. 7 agreement and that the delay in formal endorsement of the subsequent draft on modalities was because of preoccupations of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

According to highly placed PLO sources, the draft accord, which was prepared in mid-May, was being delayed as a result of different perceptions among PLO leaders, including Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the Political Department, who is, technically, the deputy head of the Palestinian Economic

Council for Development and Reconstruction (PEC-DAR).

In that capacity, Mr. Kadoumi has a say in the endorsement of the accord although Abu Alaa was the one who helped draft it.

"There is a major overlapping of roles and this is leading to holding up urgent issues," a senior PLO source said last month.

However, the justifications have not gone down well with Jordan, which is anxious to know where the Kingdom stands in terms of economic cooperation between the two banks of the River Jordan.

Jordanian officials have conveyed their views to the PLO through different channels and sought a clear PLO position on the draft, according to diplomats. They said Abu Alaa's choice of Jordan as his route to Jericho might have been partly motivated by his desire to meet with Jordanian officials to explain the PLO's stand.

The PLO sources said Mr. Couria would cross the King Hussein Bridge on Thursday to take up office in Jericho. He would be sworn in along with Samir Ghosheh and Yasser Abed Rabbo.

Mr. Arafat arrived in the Gaza Strip from Tunis through Cairo on Tuesday to take up permanent residence there.

Omar Khatib, acting head of the Palestine embassy here, confirmed that Abu Alaa would not be holding any "official" meetings while in Jordan on this trip. "There could be informal meetings," he said.

## Israel presses for S. African explanation

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Israel's ambassador to Pretoria said on Tuesday he had sought an explanation of police charges that Israel's secret service had murdered two people in South Africa.

Ambassador Alon Liel told reporters he met Foreign Ministry officials in Pretoria on Monday to discuss the allegation that Mossad had committed the murders to the supply of strategic chemicals to Arab countries.

"I raised our concerns and asked the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to approach the police and find out what's behind these allegations," Mr. Liel said.

He said the South African officials told him local police had given them no information.

"I was promised that they would make inquiries with the police," said Mr. Liel, who denied the police charges when they were first made last month.

Police said Mossad was behind the killing of British-born paint technologist Alan Kidger in Johannesburg in November 1991 and of chemical engineer Wynand van Wyk in Cape Town in April last year.

They have reopened inquiries into two apparent suicides, those of former arms dealer Don Lange and chemical engineer John Scott. Lange, Kidger and Van Wyk were all acquainted with each other and Kidger knew Scott.

A confidant of Lange's told Reuters that the dead man had worked with the then South African minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, in arranging the sale of G-5 artillery to Iraq in the 1980s.

The confidant said Lange had met Malan in a Vienna hotel room. Lange had spoken of complex financial arrangements for payment for arms, including the use of laundered drug money from South America, the confidant said.

General Malan, who was once head of the South African defence force and is now retired, could not be reached for comment.

Lange, who apparently knew of Israeli involvement in Kidger's death before police did, was found gassed in his Durban home two weeks ago. A business associate quoted him as saying several months ago he feared he would be "eliminated."

The arms deals during the 1980s were shrouded in secrecy because of an international weapons embargo against the then apartheid government in power in Pretoria.

Israel ignored the embargo, cooperating closely with South Africa on military and security matters, but the new South African government of President Nelson Mandela has friendly ties with many Arab countries.

## Four killed in attack near Algiers embassy

ALGIERS (Agencies) —

Gummen ambushed a police patrol near the Italian embassy Tuesday, setting off a gunbattle that killed four people a day after 11 died in attacks linked to a Muslim fundamentalist insurgency.

Two of the gunmen, believed to be Muslim militants, and two police died in the gunbattle in the hills of Algiers normally considered a relatively secure area for diplomats and other foreigners.

A third gunman was arrested by security forces sent to assist the patrol, which was attacked in an unmarked car, said authorities on condition of anonymity.

The latest attacks have increased fear among foreigners that the military-backed government was unable to ensure their safety. Seven East European died Monday, bringing to 51 slain in a campaign aimed at undermining a government dependent on foreign expertise.

Despite the violence, the U.S. oil company ARCO signed a 25-year contract with state-owned Sonatrach to develop a field in the Sahara at a cost of \$1 billion, the government said.

If the situation doesn't improve, we must bring home the Italians. Without political stability, there's nothing to be done," said Mirko Tremaglia, head of parliament's foreign affairs commission.

Mr. Tremaglia visited Algeria at the weekend for talks with Algerian ministers after the deaths of the seven seamen.

How can people live and work in these conditions, under armed protection around the clock? It's more like going to war than going to work," he said.

In Britain, a leading member of the FIS is a member of the Group of Seven leading industrialised states Tuesday of siding with Algeria's military government at the expense of the country's people.

Foreigners have been targeted since September, and many of the victims have been workers for government-owned companies including Sonatrach, the petroleum firm that generates the lion's share of the country's export revenue.

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